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W. C. CULKINS

*In Three Volumes
Illustrated*

Volume III

CHICAGO
ROBERT O. LAW COMPANY
1920

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A LIST OF SOLDIERS FROM MIAMI COUNTY IN THE WORLD WAR.

The following list has been taken from various sources, the chief of which is the list furnished by the Troy chapter of the Red Cross. This list was carefully checked over with the list of discharged soldiers as printed in Colonel F. M. Sterrett's History of Miami County. The names were often duplicated in these two lists, and to reconcile the different spellings has been difficult. It is more than likely that many errors have crept in. There was no means of verifying these, and we were obliged to print it as the best obtainable. We hope that it may serve as a checking list for future compilers so that omissions or errors may be corrected.

After most of these had been set in type, a further list came to hand which is added to the end of each letter where it belongs. In looking for any name both parts of the same alphabet should be gone over.

It should be added, in justice to the many patriotic boys who volunteered and entered the service before the draft law went into effect, that there is no regular list or record available giving their names. For this reason, it is quite likely that many of the volunteers are not included in this list.

Fred Abshire, Henry Abshire, C. W. Achbach, C. W. Aholt, George R. Alameyer, W. H. Albough, Bert L. Aldrich, J. E. Alexander, John E. Alexander, L. M. Alexander, Milo B. Alexander, Ralph Alexander, Charles C. Allen, R. H. Allen, George R. Alsmeyer, H. R. Arbegast, Joseph G. Arnold, Elmer L. Arthur, Clarence Anderson, George B. Anderson, Alvin Anagnost, George Anagnost, Clarence Asher, Frank Applegate, John L. Arnold, L. H. Arnold.

J. L. Babb, Merrill Babb, Webb F. Babb, Harry J. Bader, William C. Baher, C. N. Bailey, Henry L. Bailey, R. W. Bailey, W. A. Bailey, George E. Baker, J. F. Ball, G. C. Ballinger, C. E. Bancroft, William Barbee, William Barby, J. S. Bard, James W. Bard, Arthur Barnes, E. L. Barnes, W. D. Barnes, Bernard Barnett, C. L. Barnhart, Ray C. Barnhart, David B. Barr, C. J. Bartel, R. D. Bartmess, Howard Battie, Frank Battigalia, Howard Batty, E. S. Bauh, Joseph H. Bauman, William Bausch, Ellis E. Bausman, H. H. Bausman, C. R. Bayman, Forest R. Bayman, George Bayman, Charles Beam, W. C. Beam, William O. Beam, G. E. Beams, G. F. Beanblossom, Ralph B. Beard, Henry Beashore, A. J. Beauchamp, F. R. Beaver, Kenneth H. Beck, Frank Becker, L. J. Becker, C. J. Beckert, Ralph F. Beckert, R. F. Beckert, Pearl J. Beckert, Beecher Beery, J. P. Bell, Louis Belschwender, W. E. Benham, C. A. Benkert, L. J. Benkert, Emerson Benning, C. A. Berry, George Berryman, Barger T. Beunson, J. O. Birely, R. M.

Bireley, Ferdinand Bissett, Jeremiah Bissett, J. L. Bissett, W. E. Bixler, W. L. Black, I. R. Blackburn, J. O. Bobbs, C. W. Bodenmiller, L. W. Bodey, H. W. Bodkin, O. A. Bodkins, Oscar Boggs, E. E. Bohan, W. R. Bohlender, Joseph T. Boitnott, Edward Bolden, R. T. Boller, E. D. Booth, John Bothe, R. F. Bowen, R. J. Bowen, M. W. Bower, Leroy Bowman, A. H. Boyer, R. L. Boyles, F. E. Bradley, Frank M. Brandon, R. L. Brandon, E. E. Bransman, R. R. Braun, Walter Braun, Kenneth Breckenridge, L. J. Breckenridge, E. G. Brelsford, M. J. Brendel, H. B. Brideman, Andrew Bridges, Lewis E. Bridges, O. C. Bridges, Jesse E. Brooks, V. M. Brooks, Baird Broomhall, Don S. Broughton, Barger Brouson, Charles E. Brown, H. L. Brown, John T. Brown, M. J. Brown, Reuben Brown, Robert L. Brown, Russell R. Brown, Warren L. Brown, H. T. Browson, Carson A. Brubaker, Charles Brumbaugh, Jesse Brumbaugh, R. M. Brumbaugh, C. N. Brush, Ray Brush, Howard Bryan, Leslie R. Bryant, Otis R. Buchanan, Barney E. Buckholtz, D. J. Bucholtz, Clarence J. Buck, C. L. Buckel, Louis Buckle, Granville E. Buckles, G. A. Buirley, Fred F. Bundschuh, J. H. Bundschuh, Robert Burkett, Charles Burnsides, C. W. Burton, Fred Burtscher, Russell Burus, C. T. Busch, Loran Bush, Clarence J. Butsch, George C. Butsch, Arthur E. Byrd, N. C. Byrd, Judson Byrley, Eugene F. Byrne, George O. Bailey, C. R. Baker, William A. Barnes, Walter L. Barnes, George W. Barnhart, Joseph H. Barton, E. McKay Blackburn, Robert H. Bottorff, I. H. Bowman, J. L. Boyer, Walter A. Brandt, Willis E. Branson, John D. Bright, Earl Brooks, Carl M. Brubecker, R. L. Brunbaker, Ottis R. Buchanan, Forest D. Bucholz, Charles W. Buckles, H. J. Burton, Paul L. Butts, Royal H. Becker.

H. D. Cable, James R. Cain, Ray Cain, Ralph Caldwell, Reece Caldwell, George R. Cameron, J. M. Campbell, Carlin L. Canny, Warren Carey, William A. Carey, T. C. Carman, Walter Carmine, Paul H. Caron, Leo M. Carr, Ben Carpenter, Herman Cartwright, Roy Cartwright, Herbert E. Cashmer, E. W. Cathcart, G. W. Cathcart, F. I. Caven, K. L. Ceow, H. A. Chaffee, Earl Chambers, Paul W. Chambers, Warren K. Chambers, F. I. Chaney, Lewis H. Chaney, M. Chappell, R. E. Chipley, Charles E. Christy, Joe Chronerberry, Richard F. Chronerberry, Illaris Cicicarollo, C. D. Clark, Frank A. Clark, R. Clayson, David Cleary, V. O. Cleland, James Clemens, R. E. Clemens, E. L. Clewers, C. W. Clingan, J. A. Clingan, John W. Clingan, Harold Coate, Judson Coate, C. H. B. Coburn, M. V. Coddington, Frank J. Cody, Ralph J. Coffeen, Arthur Coffman, Charles Coffman, Ralph Cole, Charles E. Collins, Earnest Collins, James L. Collins, G. H. Collmorgan, C. T. Colombo, Arthur B. Conley, E. M. Connor, U. J. Conrad, Howard M. Coon, Ralph W. Coon, Ray M. Coon, T. J. Cooper, Thomas J. Cooper, Clarence Coppock, J. C. Corbin, Carrol L. Correy, James I. Corrol, Robert R. Cosley, A. S. Cost, J. E. Cottingham, H. F. Cottingham, A. B. Couley, L. M. Counts, Harry G. Cox, S. R. Crafton, T. L. Craig, Ralph B. Craighead, R. E. Cranston, Hobart A. Cress, Charles W. Crew, R. E. Cromer,

Walter Cromer, Edgar Cron, Kenneth L. Cron, L. C. Cron, Melvin G. Crotinger, J. I. Cruea, L. O. Cruikshank, Sylvester Crusea, W. A. Cummings, C. E. Cunningham, Howard S. Curry, F. W. Curtiss, Carl E. Caldwell, James Carroll, A. W. Chambers, George Cirl, Charles F. Clark, John H. Clingenpeel, Carrol L. Correy.

H. E. Daganhardt, J. H. Daganhardt, Ralph Dailey, L. D. Dale, R. W. Dalton, Dave Dalzell, Phil Dalzell, Leonard J. Danford, A. R. Dankworth, J. J. Dankworth, Earl Dapore, William F. Darbey, Edwin Davis, Harley D. Davis, Larkin E. Davis, Morris Davis, Norman Davis, Robert Davis, R. E. Davis, Samuel U. Davis, Cecil H. Deam, C. E. Dearbaugh, James Deckray, Don F. Deeter, M. R. Deeter, Kenneth B. Deleat, A. C. Denman, William Denny, H. A. Dennie, Joe Deonglo, J. E. Detwiler, Douglass DeWeese, W. S. DeWeese, John Dewer, Roy J. Dewer, T. O. Dickensheats, George Dickson, A. C. Dietrick, Dilbert Ditner, James Dockray, Lester Dody, James Donahue, John Donahue, E. E. Donaldson, C. W. Doppler, L. D. Doup, J. E. Downey, Vernon Drake, A. L. Drawing, L. H. Drum, W. R. Duebner, W. M. Duff, William McKay Duncan, Lee A. Dunham, Clifford A. Dunn, W. H. Dye, Alex W. Davidson, Charles Davis, Ford R. Davis, John A. Deaton, Clarence F. Deeter, Hubert F. Dersham, Ray E. Detrick, Cleo Ditmer, C. L. Driver.

A. R. Ebberts, E. W. Edge, O. W. Edge, Harry Edwards, Sam Edwards, F. H. Ehling, L. W. Eichoff, R. R. Eichoff, Herbert Eiting, Lowell S. Ellabarger, Charles R. Elleman, Robert K. Elleman, Christian Ellerman, R. E. Ellicker, C. D. Elliott, H. F. Elliott, J. C. Elliott, Virgil Elliot, L. E. Emel, C. R. Emerick, G. P. Emerick, Walter Emerick, C. E. Emmert, G. K. English, Ned English, L. E. Enswiler, C. H. Epler, Burley C. Erwin, P. E. Erwin, L. R. Eshelman, L. C. Essex, Amos C. Ewing, A. H. Evans, Edward Evans, Everett Evans, E. R. Evans, John Evans, O. C. Evans, S. L. Evans, H. C. Everingham, Martin F. Eberenze, John R. Ehlen, Forest E. Elleman, John O. Eller, William Elston, D. T. Etter.

G. O. Fagan, George R. Fairbairn (Y. M. C. A.), L. M. Fenner, Jim Fess, Wilbur D. Fess, George Fessler, William B. Finfrook, William M. Finfrook, A. J. Fish, Edgar G. Fisher, Edward L. Fisher, R. H. Flege, H. M. Fleming, R. M. Fleming, A. L. Flesh, George Flesh, George A. Flesh, Robert Flynn, Earl C. Folks, Albert W. Forste, George Foster, Charles R. Fox, Charles William Frahn, E. H. Francis, Jesse B. Francis, Charles C. Frantom, G. J. Freihofer, Solomon Freihofer, John H. French, James E. Freshour, L. C. Frisch, Emory C. Fritz, Ralph Fritz, M. F. Fritch, Bernard Fronda, W. C. Frost, A. H. Frosts, A. V. Fry, E. M. Fry, Merle B. Fuller, R. W. Fultz, H. W. Furlong, Aubrey R. Furnas, Clarence R. Furrow, Edward Furrow, Frank Furrow, Ray F. Furrow, W. C. Falknor, J. R. Finfrook, Edward G. Fisher, R. J. Flory, William R. Flory, Homer E. Foster, Lester S. Fourman, Hobart A. Fulker, Otto W. Fulker, Paul Furlong, Cloyd Funderburg.

William J. Gail, Douglass M. Gaither, Earl C. Galbreath, John

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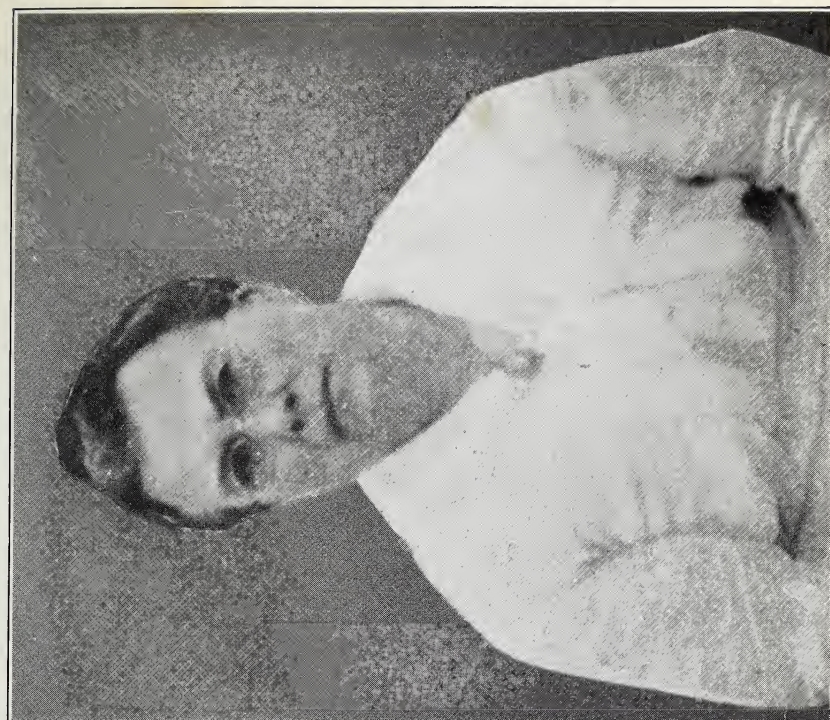
BIOGRAPHICAL

N. O. Anderson, chief equipment man for the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and one of that concern's most trusted and valued employes at Phoneton, was born at Mount Vernon, Knox county, Ohio, November 7, 1882, a son of John H. and Alice B. (Bell) Anderson. Mr. Anderson secured a high school education at Mount Vernon and after spending one year at Western Reserve College, Cleveland, applied himself to the study of medicine, devoting two years to this calling at the Ohio Medical College, Columbus. Upon leaving that institution, however, he did not take up medical practice but accepted a position in the draughting department of the C. & G. Cooper Company, engine works, where he remained for nine months. Subsequently for six years he was with the Mount Vernon Telephone Company and for one year with the Central Union Telephone Company at Columbus. In November, 1906, Mr. Anderson joined the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, at Phoneton, and his career here has been one of constant advancement, his post as chief equipment man being one that carries with it innumerable responsibilities. Mr. Anderson is accounted one of the most practical and thoroughly-informed men in his special line of work and has the full confidence of his superiors and the esteem and friendship of his fellow-workers. Mr. Anderson married Cecil V., daughter of Edward J. and Mary MacDonald, of Toledo. Mr. Anderson has always discharged the duties of citizenship in a public-spirited manner, and during the war period was untiring in his efforts to raise funds at the plant of the company and elsewhere. Fraternally, he is affiliated with Tippecanoe Lodge, No. 174, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of which he is past master and in which he has numerous friends. While his employment is at Phoneton, his residence is at Tippecanoe City, where he and Mrs. Anderson have a pleasant and comfortable home.

Walter F. Anderson, an energetic agriculturist of modern tendencies and one of the younger leaders of the Republican party in Washington township, was born in Miami county, February 17, 1886, a son of Charles and Ella (Blood) Anderson. Charles Anderson was a lifelong farmer in Washington township, where he owned and operated the property now occupied by his son, until 1914, in which year he went into retirement. He is now living at Piqua, where he has numerous friends and is held in high esteem, his declining years being passed in the enjoyment of the rewards which come as a result of a life of industry and honorable endeavor. He and his estimable wife, now deceased, are the parents of three

children: Walter F., Mrs. Fred Black and Mrs. Howard Kirby. Mrs. Charles Anderson passed away August 12, 1920. Walter F. Anderson received his education in the public schools of Miami county, and after his graduation from the high school at Piqua began farming in association with his father. When the elder man retired, in 1914, he took over the management of the property, which he has since handled in an entirely capable manner. He has shown a marked interest in public affairs and has been active in the ranks of the Republican party in Washington township, where he wields no little influence. As a progressive and public-spirited citizen he has contributed his full share to the support of movements making for the welfare and betterment of his community. September 2, 1914, Mr. Anderson married Miss Edna Veith, a daughter of Jacob and Minnie (Werpup) Veith, of Piqua, and they have two children: Richard and Edna. The family attends the St. John's Lutheran Church.

George H. Antonides. That congenial work bears with it large possibilities of success is emphasized in the career of George H. Antonides, a leading farmer and stock raiser of Monroe township and a resident of Miami county for forty years. Mr. Antonides was born in Darke county, Ohio, April 6, 1859, a son of James and Mary Ann (Huffman) Antonides. The family was founded in Ohio in 1806, when the grandfather brought his wife and children to Darke county from New Jersey. The great-grandfather was from Holland. His son rounded out his career as a sturdy tiller of the soil amidst pioneer surroundings. James Antonides was born in New Jersey in 1804 and was but two years of age when taken by his parents to Darke county, at that time largely in its primitive form, with wild beasts in the wilderness and many Indians still to be found. He was brought up to a life of hard work and reared to rugged honesty and these characteristics were evident throughout his long and honorable career. George H. Antonides left Darke county with his parents, moved to Montgomery county, there receiving his education, and remained on the home farm until he reached the age of twenty years, when he went on his father's farm, near Little York, Montgomery county. At the age of twenty-three he came to Miami county and settled about eight miles southwest of Troy. In 1904 he came to the place which he has since occupied, a well-cultivated and productive tract on which are to be found modern improvements and first-class equipment as well as substantial buildings, the latter including a pleasant and commodious home on Tippecanoe City, R. F. D. No. 2. Mr. Antonides has been more interested in his farming ventures than in public affairs, but has always displayed good citizenship, and during the war period contributed generously to various movements. He married, November 19, 1883, Lydia, daughter of Benjamin and Maria Pearson, Mrs. Antonides having been born on the property on which she and her husband made their home. She passed away July 29, 1919. Three children were born to them: Lorenzo, who assists his father in the cultivation of the home farm; Clara, the wife of Raymond Under-



MR. AND MRS. GEORGE H. ANTONIDES



wood, who is cultivating eighty acres of the home farm, and has four children, Albert L., Edna Luella, George Washington and Esther Adelpha; and Della, who died in infancy. He attends the Church of God, of Abrahamic Faith.

W. P. Anglemyer, president of the Star Foundry, of Troy, is an exemplification of the self-made man. His advancement to his present position in the business world of his community has come through individual effort and its practical application, and his sound, progressive tactics have served to give him firm prestige and prominence. Mr. Anglemyer was born on a farm in Columbiana county, Ohio, a son of Aaron and Clara (Morlan) Anglemyer. The father fought as a Union soldier during the Civil war, and following his honorable discharge took up farming in Columbiana county, where he and his worthy wife rounded out useful careers. W. P. Anglemyer depended upon the rural schools of Columbiana county for his education, and they furnished him with the rudiments of knowledge which has since been extended by his contact with men of affairs and his natural capacity for intelligent concentration upon subjects worth while. While his home surroundings during his youth were those of the farm, he early evidenced a desire to mingle in matters of a business nature, and as a youth applied himself to learning the trade of moulder. In following this vocation he made his home at Dayton for twenty-nine years, and his advancement in that city was steady and consistent. After carrying on business on his own account at Dayton for a number of years, he formed an attractive identification in a business way at Troy in 1915, since which time he has been president of the Star Foundry, a complete history of which concern will be found in the industrial section of this work. It has been Mr. Anglemyer's fortune to have built up a reputation for sterling honesty and good citizenship, the former being evidenced by his high standing in business circles and the latter by his support of all movements tending to advancement and loyalty to his city, state and country. He is a popular member of the Miami Club, Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Mr. Anglemyer married Miss Lucy Klugel, of Dayton, and they are the parents of five attractive children: Wilbur, Carl, Alfred, Margaret and Catherine.

John T. Arnold, who is numbered among the successful business men of Bradford, where he is carrying on a thriving lumber yard enterprise, was born in Miami county, in 1868, a son of David and Mary (Ross) Arnold. His father, who fought four years in the Union army during the Civil war, as a member of an Ohio volunteer infantry regiment, later became a farmer, then entered the lumber and grain business, and became one of the successful commercial operators of Bradford, where he was also vice-president of the Bradford Bank. There were three children in the family: John T.; Mrs. J. C. Weaver, of Bradford; and Mrs. R. J. D. Hoover, of Waynesboro, Pa. John T. Arnold was educated in the public schools of Bradford, after leaving which he received his introduction to the lumber business as assistant to his father. At the time

of his father's death, in 1914, he took charge of the business, which he has operated to the present time with increasing success. Mr. Arnold married Ida V., daughter of Abraham and Katherine Brandt, of Bradford, and to this union there has been born a son: John Lawson, who volunteered for service in the United States army during the World war, rose to the rank of top sergeant, and saw overseas service of one year's duration. On his return he became associated in business with his father. He married Eldora, daughter of Albert Mautz, of Illinois. Until a year ago, John T. Arnold was president of the Bradford Bank, but at that time a consolidation was effected with the First National Bank and he disposed of his interests, although he still continues to be numbered among Bradford's leading citizens and business men. He has served five years as a member of the board of school directors and in various other ways has displayed his public spirit and good citizenship. His only fraternal connection is with the local lodge of the Masonic order, in which he has numerous friends. He is a member of the Presbyterian church.

William Ashton. Among the old and honored families of Piqua, one which has been noted for its good citizenship and high business and professional principles is that bearing the name of Ashton. A worthy representative of this family is found in William Ashton, of the firm of Ashton Brothers, druggists. He was born at Piqua, Ohio, March 3, 1882, a son of Dr. A. S. and Hannah (Washer) (Wood) Ashton, the latter being a member of the well-known pioneer Wood family. Daniel Ashton, the grandfather of William, was the founder of the family at Piqua, to which city he came as early as 1832. He embarked in business here and continued to be engaged therein during the remainder of his life, becoming an honored citizen and successful business man. He and his wife were the parents of six children: William, Daniel, A. S., Mary, Esther and Jane. Dr. A. S. Ashton early gave evidence of a predilection for medicine and was allowed to encourage his leaning toward a professional career, subsequently graduating from Washington and Jefferson College and the Cincinnati Medical College. Returning to Piqua, with his brothers William and Daniel, he founded the drug business of Ashton Brothers, with which he was connected during the remainder of his life, although he also was engaged in practice and was one of the best known and most greatly esteemed physicians of his day in this locality. He and his wife were the parents of two children: William; and Mrs. J. T. Haynes, of Sandusky, Ohio. William Ashton was educated in the public schools of Piqua, and Columbia University, New York City, after leaving which he began to learn the drug business under the direction of his father and uncles. He has always been identified with the business of which he is now the head, and a large measure of its success is due to his good management and industry. While he takes a good citizen's part in movements which affect the welfare of his community, he was a supporter of all wartime measures during the recent great struggle, and was identified with the Amer-

ican Protective League. He is essentially a business man and does not care for politics. He and his family belong to the Presbyterian church. Mr. Ashton married Vivian Conn, of Van Wert, Ohio, and they are the parents of three children: William, Jr., Catherine and Nancy Jane.

Elwood Baldwin and the property upon which he resides in Monroe township have developed together, and the evolving of the former from a crude, irresponsible lad into an intelligent and wide-awake exponent of twentieth-century agriculture, is not more pronounced than is the transformation which has come over his present property under his management. Mr. Baldwin was born at Richmond, Ind., December 17, 1864, a son of William and Emily (Chapman) Baldwin. The parents were worthy agricultural people, who passed their peaceful and uneventful lives in the pursuits of the soil, winning and holding the respect and esteem of their neighbors and rearing their seven children to lives of honesty and industry. Elwood Baldwin was given his education in the public schools of his native locality and as a youth was trained by his father, whose assistant and associate he was, in all the arts of agriculture. He proved an apt pupil, both at school and on the home farm, and thus grew to manhood active in mind and sound in body, with practical ideas and an ambitious outlook. He continued to farm in Indiana until about 1885, when, having attained his majority, he left the parental roof and came to Miami county, settling in Monroe township. After being variously located, in 1909 he purchased the old Wright farm, comprising fifty-nine acres, and this is his present home. He has a modern estate in every way, and because of the fertility of his land and the able manner in which he directs his operations, he has become one of the well-to-do farmers of his locality. Mr. Baldwin married, December 30, 1891, Emma, daughter of James and Sarah A. (Valis) Smith, residents of Miami county, of the Tippecanoe City vicinity, and to this union there have been born two daughters: Ethel, who is the wife of Clayton Furnace, with the Home Treeplum Company, of Dayton; and Nellie, the wife of Elmer Motter, architect and mechanical draughtsman with the America Blower Company, of Detroit, Mich. They are the parents of one daughter, Gladys Emelia. Mr. Baldwin is not a politician nor an office seeker, but takes a good citizen's interest in civic affairs, and in both peace and war has been a supporter of worthy movements.

John H. Baker, M. D., one of the forcible citizens of Piqua, has always used his fine medical talents in the furtherance of what he has conceived to be for the best interests of the city, merging the two characters of citizen and physician into a high personal combination which has been generally recognized as an example well worthy of emulation. Doctor Baker was born on a farm in Reading township, Perry county, Ohio, a son of Daniel and Sarah E. (Frank) Baker. On the paternal side his grandmother was a member of the noted Wingard family of Colonial fame at Philadelphia, and when Gen. George Washington made that city his home,

was one of his close neighbors. Daniel Baker was a native of Perry county and a son of John Baker, who came from Philadelphia and entered land in Perry county, where he passed his life as an agriculturist. His son also took up agriculture, with which he continued to be associated during the active period of his career, and was likewise prominent and active in local political affairs, and for some years served as a member of the board of county commissioners. Daniel and Sarah E. Baker were the parents of seven children: Dr. W. E., a physician; Dr. John H.; R. F., a druggist of Somerset, Ohio, whose son, John H., served in the American Expeditionary Forces during the great war; W. D., a banker of Somerset, Ohio, whose son Ray, served in the army during the great war; Mrs. S. Barr, of Somerset, Ohio; Mrs. Catherine Arnold, of Robinson, Ill., and Mrs. Martha Kerr, of Marysville, Ohio. John H. Baker attended the public schools of Perry county, following which he pursued a course at the Ohio State University and then went to Starling Medical College for his professional training. At the time of his graduation he located at Piqua, where he is now in the enjoyment of an excellent business and is known as one of the thoroughly informed and capable men of his community. Doctor Baker is a member of the various organizations of his profession and stands high in the confidence of his professional brethren. He married Helen Constance Castle, born at Leavenworth, Kans., daughter of Patrick and Mary (Downs) Castle. The latter was the daughter of the noted Capt. W. J. Downs, a pioneer boat captain on the old waterway and a riverboat captain running on the Ohio river between Cincinnati and New Orleans. During his early manhood he was likewise a civil engineer of some reputation in this community. Patrick and Mary (Downs) Castle had the following children: Geraldine, now Mrs. M. T. McEnery, of Dublin, Ireland; Helen Constance, who is now Mrs. Baker; and William D., of Chicago. Doctor and Mrs. Baker are noted for their unostentatious charities, and during the war period were active in their support of various war measures.

Guy L. Bandy. Among the men identified with the automobile industry at Troy, one who is making a definite success of his activities is Guy L. Bandy, proprietor of the Auto Inn. He is a native of the Prairie State, born at Dudley, Edgar county, September 16, 1878, a son of Orlando and Mary E. (Ousley) Bandy. Orlando Bandy was a merchant at Dudley, where he was known as a man of sound integrity and good citizenship. There were two children in the family: Pearl, the wife of Guy Payne, of Brocton, Ill.; and Guy L. The educational advantages of Guy L. Bandy were acquired in the public schools of Brocton, Ill., after leaving which he entered upon his business experience in his father's general store. He was associated with the elder man for ten years, but in 1909 broke home ties and came to Troy, where he subsequently engaged in the garage business as the proprietor of the Auto Inn. Here he has built up a splendid patronage, selling and storing cars, maintaining an efficient repair department and service station and

handling a complete line of up-to-date accessories of standard makes. While a resident of Illinois, Mr. Bandy joined the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and still maintains membership in this order, in which he has numerous friends. He was a liberal contributor during the war to all war-time measures, and in normal times has evidenced all the traits of good citizenship. Mr. Bandy married Tessie J., daughter of S. B. Cook, of Brocton, Ill., and they have one son: Gerald, born in 1912.

Leo Bausman, who is engaged in the retail cigar business and as a real estate broker at Troy, is one of the progressive and enterprising business men of the younger generation whose activities are centered in this thriving and growing city. Mr. Bausman was born at Sidney, Ohio, in 1886, a son of Cornelius and Alice (Sayers) Bausman, and received his education in the public schools of Troy, to which city his parents removed when he was still a small boy. His first connection with business affairs was in the capacity of bookkeeper, and subsequently he became identified with the clerical force of the United States War Department, being stationed at Denver as an accountant in the commissary department. In 1910 he resigned from this position and returned to Troy, where he established himself in business as a retail cigar merchant, at present having a modern, fully stocked and well patronized place of business at No. 118 West Main street. He has also been engaged for some years in operations in real estate, a field in which he has become an excellent judge of land and realty values. His reputation in local business circles is an excellent one and his achievements have been of a nature to make fully evident his commercial ability. Mr. Bausman married Miss Bertha Maier, and to this union there have been born two children: Maier Leo and Walter Cornelius. During the war period Mr. and Mrs. Bausman were active in the work of the Red Cross and of all local war and good citizens' movements.

Joseph Barnett, ex-sheriff of Miami county, has an excellent record for official service and constructive citizenship and is well esteemed in his home community of Troy as well as in other localities: He was born at Troy, September 20, 1873, a son of Levi and Nannie (Miller) Barnett. Levi Barnett established a clothing business at Troy in 1848 in partnership with Joseph Wertheimer, Mr. Barnett later taking over the business, with which he continued to be identified until his death. He and his wife were the parents of four children: Jacob, Joseph, Lena and Tillie. Joseph Barnett attended the public schools of Troy, after leaving which he and his brother Jacob entered their father's clothing establishment, to the ownership of which they succeeded at the time of the elder man's demise. They carried on a flourishing business as men's furnishers and merchant tailors at the southeast corner of the Public Square, but Joseph Barnett, having become interested in political matters, sold his interests to his brother and retired from business affairs. Mr. Barnett served as deputy sheriff under Sheriffs Scobey, Gibson and Paul, and in 1914 was elected sheriff of Miami

county on the Republican ticket, receiving an unusually large majority in one of the hottest political campaigns known in the history of the county. While occupying the sheriff's office he had an unusually large number of prisoners to handle, among them being several first-degree murderers. His conduct of the duties of the office was such as to earn for him the highest commendation of the citizens of this community. After retiring from the shrievalty, Mr. Barnett became Miami county agent for the Delco Lighting System and other appliances, and to this work he now devotes his entire attention. His acquaintance is large and his friends numerous. Mr. Barnett was married October 10, 1906, to Bessie, daughter of Joseph and Rose (Whitehead) Cotral, Mr. Cotral being a leading miller of Tippecanoe, who was well and favorably known throughout the community. John and Charles Hockett, sons of Mrs. Clara (Cotral) Hockett, a sister of Mrs. Barnett, served as soldiers in the United States army during the recent World war. During the war period Mr. Barnett was active in all local movements, and Mrs. Barnett was particularly active in sewing and knitting for the Red Cross Society. Mr. Barnett is a member of the Piqua Lodge of Elks, the Woodmen of the World, the Loyal Order of Moose and the Junior Order of United American Mechanics.

J. F. Beachler, M. D. Although but a few years a resident of Piqua, Dr. J. F. Beachler is well known to the medical fraternity of this city, and freely recognized as a capable physician and surgeon, having enjoyed a successful practice at various points in this part of the state prior to coming to Piqua in 1916. He was born at Greenville, Ohio, July 9, 1889, a son of C. F. and Barbara (Miller) Beachler, and has one sister: Mrs. Opal Honeyman, of Greenville. The graded and high schools of his native city furnished Doctor Beachler with his early educational training, and his medical studies were prosecuted at Starling Medical College. Subsequently he became house surgeon at Mount Carmel (Ohio) Hospital, where during a period of three years he gained much valuable experience, and then took up the practice of his profession at Piqua, where he has since attained a large practice and gratifying recognition as a practitioner, a careful diagnostician, and a reliable surgeon. He belongs to the various organizations of his profession, and is held in high esteem by his fellow-practitioners. His fraternal affiliation is with the Elks and he likewise holds membership in several civic clubs and bodies. Doctor Beachler married Miss Ethel Singer, of Sidney, Ohio, and they are the parents of two children: John F. Jr., and William Christian.

Royal Howard Becker, D. D. S. While Dr. Royal Howard Becker has been a resident of Piqua only since December, 1918, he has already become known to a large percentage of the population of this city as a careful practitioner of dentistry. He was born at Middletown, Ohio, March 5, 1893, a son of Peter and Amelia (Boehm) Becker, farming people. Peter Becker was an agriculturist of Lemon township, Butler county, for many years and a man

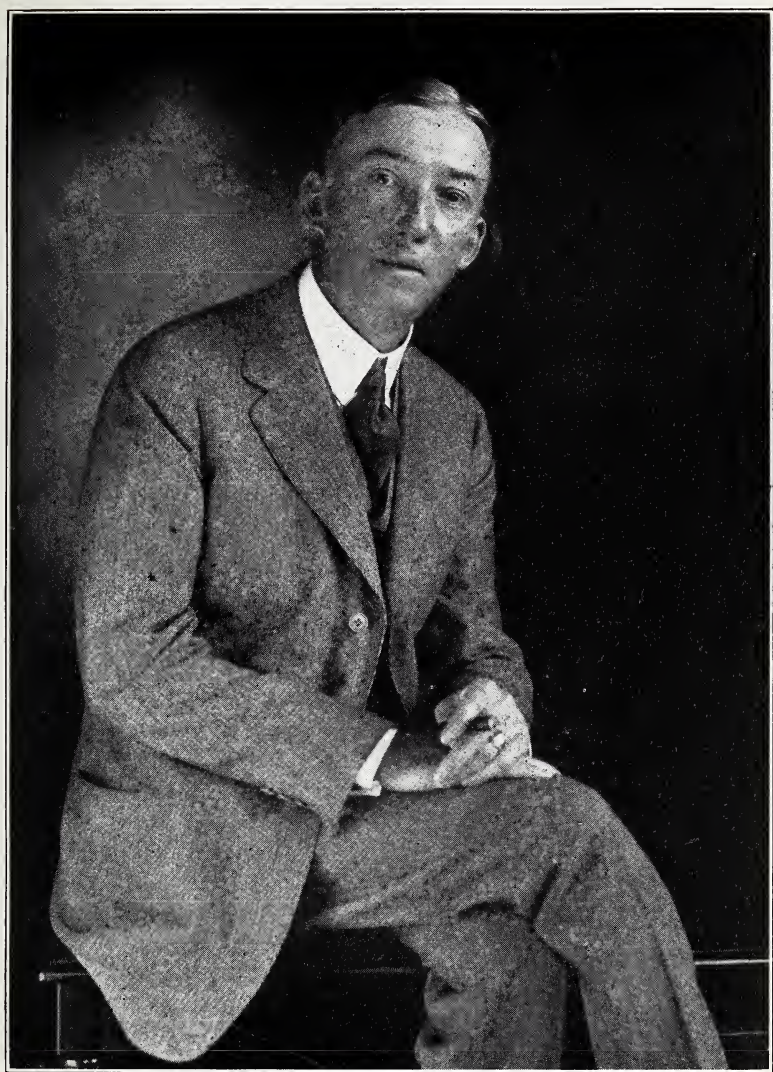
of industry who had the esteem and respect of his fellow-citizens because of his many sterling traits of character. He and his wife were the parents of three children: Emil, who is deceased; Corliss, who is engaged in farming operations on the old home place in Butler county, and Dr. Royal H. Royal H. Becker attended the graded school at Excello, Butler county, and the high school at Middletown, and after graduating from the latter began the study of his profession at the Ohio Dental College, Cincinnati. He was duly graduated therefrom with the class of 1914, when he received the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery, and at that time entered upon the practice of his calling at Middletown. He had made an excellent start in his vocation when he entered the United States service, in June, 1918, as a member of the Dental Corps, and was assigned to Fort Oglethorpe, where he received his commission as first lieutenant. There he remained, engaged in his military duties, until receiving his honorable discharge December 16, 1918. At that time he came to Piqua, where he has since practiced his profession, with offices and laboratories at 320½ North Main street. He is a member of the American Legion and of the Masons, and likewise belongs to the various organizations of his profession.

Lewis Benning, one of the skilled and progressive farmers of the younger generation in Washington township, was born in Miami county, January 15, 1891, a son of John and Sarah (Old-father) Benning, well-known and greatly respected residents of this county, who have been identified with agricultural pursuits here for many years. A brother of Mr. Benning, Edward, served in the United States Army during the World war, acting first as an army truck driver in Kansas and being connected later with the heavy artillery in France. Lewis Benning is a product of the country schools and has passed the greater part of his life in farming. During the last eight years he has been carrying on operations on the Heitzmann farm in Washington township, a tract of 116 acres which he has brought to a high state of cultivation. He has developed into a skilled, practical and progressive farmer of his locality and is securing a good return for the labor which he expends upon his property. Mr. Benning married, March 16, 1918, Miss Ada Nishwitz, daughter of David and Callie (Combs) Nishwitz, farming people, and they have two children: Robert L. and Lawrence. Mr. Benning has always been a good citizen, and during the World war period contributed his full share to the support of the various movements which had a bearing upon the success of American arms.

Sidney A. Blessing, manager of the West Milton Telephone Company, and local minister of the Church of the Brethren at this place, was born in Huntington county, Ind., April 7, 1868, a son of John and Sarah (Miller) Blessing. John Blessing was a member of a pioneer family of Greene county, Ohio, where his father had been an agriculturist, and was residing there when the Civil war came on. He enlisted in an Ohio infantry regiment, with which he served for eleven months, and in 1866 moved to Indiana and took up his

residence in Huntington county, where he passed the remainder of his life in agricultural pursuits and was one of the highly honored, esteemed and substantial men of his locality. He married Sarah Miller, of Greene county, whose father had located at Dayton as early as 1830, and they became the parents of seven children: Frank, Edwin, Charles, Glenn, Sidney A., Lilly and Linnie Elsie. After attending the primary school at Macy, Ind., Sidney A. Blessing pursued a normal course at Mount Morris and began his career as a school teacher in Indiana. After eleven years of educational work, he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, in which he was engaged from 1900 to 1903 in Ohio, and in the latter year received his introduction to the telephone business, when he built the Trotwood Telephone Exchange, in Montgomery county. This proved a great success, and Mr. Blessing next established the Liberty Exchange. In 1905 he came to West Milton and took charge of the telephone company here, which, under his management, has developed into one of the best-controlled systems in the county. Mr. Blessing is a man of much ability, with wide experience in the telephone field, and his company is giving its patrons excellent service. He is minister of the Church of the Brethren at West Milton, and in this work shows zeal, fervor and an exalted conception of spiritual matters. He has always been a helpful and constructive citizen, and during the war period contributed liberally to all movements calculated as being contributory to the success of American arms. Mr. Blessing married Anna Belle, daughter of Newton Klepinger, of Montgomery county, Ohio, and to this union there have been born three children: Earl C., a student at Purdue University, specializing in electrical engineering; Alice, who is a student in the first year of high school at West Milton; and Mary, who died in infancy.

James L. Black. It is undoubtedly the duty of the present generation to chronicle everything of historical value, concerning the various movements in the recent war, as a paramount duty to the future generations. The interest that may be evinced in the attainments of the men and women in the great epoch just closed, of course, cannot be measured. It is sufficient perhaps to be guided by the experiences of the past in this as well as in all other matters; so it is entirely within the bounds of ethics to touch intimately on the lives of those men and women who were the outstanding figures in the movements which claimed their attention. In this instance we divert to Mr. James L. Black, the able county chairman of the Fourth and Fifth Liberty Loans in Miami county. Mr. Black was born in Tontogany, Ohio, May 20, 1876, a son of Captain L. Black and Georgia C. (Cooper) Black. Captain L. Black served with distinction in the Civil war in the One Hundred and Forty-fourth and One Hundred and Eighty-fifth Ohio. He was captured in battle and confined in Libby prison for four months. Captain Black was elected treasurer of Wood county in 1880 and was prominent in the councils of the Republican party, having also been selected as a delegate to the National convention, which nominated



J. L. Black



McKinley. He embarked in the clothing business at Bowling Green, Ohio, and was one of the pioneer oil operators in that part of Ohio, being one of the very first to develop that field. The Cooper family, of which Mrs. L. Black was a member, was of old American stock, she being a second cousin of the renowned author, James Fenimore Cooper. To Captain L. Black and wife were born two children: James L. and Mrs. Marie Friedlich. James L. Black was educated at Bowling Green, Ohio, in the common and high schools and later attended Oberlin College, after which he managed a store (general) at Portage, Ohio, belonging to his father. He subsequently, in 1900, entered into a partnership with John P. Spiker, of Piqua, in the manufacture of underwear; the factory at that time being established at Bowling Green. On January 1, 1905, the industry was removed to Piqua, since which time it has grown to splendid proportions. (For a complete history of the Superior Underwear Company, above referred to, the reader is referred to the industrial section of this work, entitled Piqua industries). J. L. Black was married in 1905 to Miss Florence Zitterbart, of Pittsburgh, daughter of Prof. Fidelis Zitterbart, a noted musician. Professor Zitterbart founded the first conservatory of music in Pittsburgh and for more than fifteen years was concert master with the Theodore Thomas Orchestra, and was also widely known as a composer of classical music and a recipient of honor medals from the Philharmonic Society, of New York. To Mr. Black and wife have been born two children: Catherine, who died in infancy; and James L. Jr. Mr. Black's able service as chairman of the Fourth and Fifth War Loans in this county and as district chairman of the War Savings Stamps campaign, is fully set forth in that portion of this work dedicated to the war movements in Miami county. In addition to his interests in the Superior Underwear Company, Mr. Black is a director in the Piqua Savings Bank; a director in the Meteor Motor Car Company, and in the Wood Products Company; president of the Hetherington Company; a director of the Chamber of Commerce, of which he was formerly president, having been instrumental in its re-organization and maintenance; past-president Piqua Club; president of the Golf Club; Masonic-Scottish Rite, Shriner; director Y. M. C. A.; trustee Y. W. C. A.; trustee Presbyterian church, secretary and treasurer of the Superior Underwear Company, and president of the Superior Athletic Underwear Co.

John C. Blotner, while still in the prime of life, can be accounted a veteran lumberman, inasmuch as he has been identified with this industry for a period of twenty-eight years. The half-partner and manager of the Troy Lumber Co., was born in Darke county, Ohio, January 18, 1872, a son of John and Rhoda Blotner. his father being a successful and highly respected agriculturist of Darke county, where he passed the entire period of his active career. Of the nine children born to the parents, four are still living: William F., of Dayton, Ohio; Louisa Ann, of Weatherhead, Ind.; Sarah Elisabeth, of Greenville, Ohio; John C., of Troy, Ohio. John C. Blotner received a country school education, supplemented

by attendance at public school at Versailles, Ohio, and as a youth became interested in the lumber business. From 1892 until 1910 he was employed with George H. Worch at Versailles, Ohio, and in the latter year he, with Mr. Worch, purchased a lumber yard at Osborn, Ohio, he being half-owner and manager with full charge. There he met with the best of success for a time, but in the year 1918 was forced out of Osborn by The Miami Conservancy and came to Troy April 1, and purchased the lumber yard of R. W. Crofoot, located on South Grant street. He and Mr. Worch are the sole owners of the Troy Lumber Co., with Mr. Blotner as manager. His capable management of this concern has resulted in its rapid growth and development, and at this time he is engaged in the construction of a modern and up-to-date plant on West Market street, for the housing of all kinds of building material, with a well-equipped planing mill in connection, which, when completed, will be equal to any lumber yard in the state of Ohio. Mr. Blotner, as the foregoing would suggest, is a man of action and progressive ideas. His standing in business circles is excellent and he enjoys in the fullest degree the confidence of his associates. He is primarily and essentially a business man, with few outside interests, but performs the duties of good citizenship and is always willing and ready as a booster for the community in which he lives. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, in which order he has numerous friends. Mr. Blotner married Helen Louise, daughter of August and Sophia Haack, of Versailles, Ohio. They have four children: Rubine, a member of the 1920 graduating class at the Van Cleve High School; Dorothy Louise, Emma Caroline and John C., Jr.

John Botzenhart, Jr., the owner of a well-established grocery business at the corner of Race and Market streets, Troy, was born in this city, a son of John and Elizabeth (Steinmetz) Botzenhart. John Botzenhart was a shoemaker who learned his art when the apprentices to that trade were taught its every principle and particular. In the old days, when shoes were made to order, he became famed for his expert workmanship, and his footwear has always been of a superior character. He still conducts a shoe shop at Troy, in which community he is known as a law-abiding and entirely reliable citizen. He and his worthy wife are the parents of two children: John, Jr., and Marie. John Botzenhart, the younger, was given the benefits of a high school education and on laying aside his school books secured employment in the grocery business. Later his services were secured by the Allen & Wheeler Company, of Troy, as manager of their retail feed and flour department, and subsequently he was identified with a grain elevator as bookkeeper and assistant manager. He entered his present business in 1917, when he purchased the stock and good will of W. G. Wells, at Race and Market streets. Here he has built up an excellent patronage through a policy of honest representation of goods, fair prices and courteous service, and his proprietorship of this business places him among the substantial retail merchants of Troy. Mr. Botzen-

hart married Clare, daughter of L. F. Henne, of Troy, and a sister of Albert Henne, who served in the United States navy during the late war. Mr. and Mrs. Botzenhart have two children: Caroline and Lois. Mr. Botzenhart was a generous contributor to all war measures, and Mrs. Botzenhart was most active in the Red Cross Society, where she was particularly helpful in knitting. Fraternally, he is identified with the local lodges of the Masons, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Pythias. He is a director of civil service and in other ways has discharged the responsibilities of citizenship, belongs to the Miami Club, in which he has numerous warm friends, and, with Mrs. Botzenhart is a member of St. John's Evangelical Church, in which he is serving as a member of the board of trustees.

Henry J. Bothe, who as a first-class tailor of Troy, occupies a recognized position among the substantial business men of his city, was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1870, a son of Bernard and Theresa Bothe, and one of a family of ten children. He was educated in the public schools of his native city, after leaving which he took up the trade of tailoring which he mastered in all its details. After serving his apprenticeship, he became a journeyman, and as such first came to Troy in 1893, leaving one and one-half years later, only to come back to this city in 1895. For four years more he worked for others, but in 1899 embarked in a business venture of his own, which has since proved very successful. He is considered one of the expert workmen in his field and all of his orders are completed in his own shop, while among his patrons are to be found some of the most prominent citizens of Troy. Mr. Bothe also carries a complete line of men's furnishings. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and is a loyal supporter of patriotic and public-spirited measures. Mr. Bothe married Bibbe Donohue, of Troy, and they are the parents of one son: John, who was stationed at Camp Taylor, Ky., during the war period, and who is now associated with his father in the tailoring business.

Walter E. Bowyer. Among the citizens of Troy who have brought themselves to the forefront through individual ability and foresightedness is Walter E. Bowyer. Mr. Bowyer is a native of Warren county, Ohio, where he received his education in the public schools of Foster and his home training under the guidance of Stephen S. and Margaret (Hoff) Bowyer, parents who instructed their son along the lines of industry and honesty. Like many others who have made their marks in the business and financial world, Mr. Bowyer entered upon his career as a school-teacher, but the educational profession did not hold him long, for when he was still a youth he was found identified with Joseph Myer & Son, a tobacco concern of New York City. His talents developing along the avenue of financial efficiency, in 1894 Mr. Bowyer came to Troy, as bookkeeper of the Troy National Bank. He was subsequently advanced to the position of cashier, and his sound views, natural ability in banking lines, and progressive, albeit conservative, tac-

tics brought him to the presidency. Under his regime the institution has come to a foremost place among Miami county institutions, and the bank shares with Mr. Bowyer the confidence of the public. Mr. Bowyer has various other interests and is a member of the board of directors of the Hobart Manufacturing Company. Civic interests have claimed Mr. Bowyer's attention as they have of every good citizen in an enterprising community, and his name will always be found backing any enterprise that makes for betterment and advancement. He belongs to the Troy and Country clubs, in which he has numerous sincere friends, and is a Scottish Rite Mason and a member of the Coleman Commandery, Knight Templars, belonging also to the Mystic Shrine. His membership in the First Presbyterian church takes practical form, and his services as treasurer thereof are appreciated. Mrs. Bowyer was formerly Miss Charlotte Thompson, and is a daughter of Dr. W. R. Thompson, of Troy. Her brother, Wilbur S. Thompson, was connected with the United States Aviation Corps during the great World war. Mr. and Mrs. Bowyer have one daughter: Laura, who is a student at Smith College, Northampton, Mass.

J. H. Boyd. Among the enterprising and progressive merchants of West Milton, one who has attained a well-merited success through legitimate channels of activity is J. H. Boyd. Mr. Boyd was born at Louisburg, Preble county, Ohio, a son of Gabriel and Catherine (House) Boyd. His education was acquired through the medium of attendance at the public schools, and when still a young man he entered upon his career in mercantile lines at his native place. Subsequently, he went to Dayton, where he became a merchant and followed that line until coming to West Milton. Here he bought the establishment formerly conducted by Charles Lewis and has since developed a substantial and paying business. He carries a complete line of up-to-date goods, attractively displayed and fairly priced, and his good management and personal courtesy have combined to attract a representative trade and to place him substantially in the confidence of the buying public. Mr. Boyd has several civic and social connections and in local affairs is a staunch supporter of all movements making for advancement and better citizenship. He married Jessie Bower, daughter of a leading Preble county agriculturist, and they have one daughter, Mary Ethel, who is the wife of Frank Lair, of West Milton.

Henry W. Brandt, a resident of Miami county for many years and for a long period one of its prosperous and substantial farmers, is now engaged in agricultural operations in Newberry township, where he is the owner of 100 acres of productive land. Mr. Brandt was born in Darke county, Ohio, June 9, 1857, a son of Malachi and Frances (Brown) Brandt, natives of Lancaster county, Pa. The parents were residents of Darke county for a number of years, there rounding out their worthy and honorable lives in the pursuits of farming. Of their nine children, six are living: Joseph, a farmer in Miami county; Malachi and Oren, who are engaged in farming near Pleasant Hill; Frances, the wife of Aaron Miller, a farmer, one

mile west of Bradford; Elizabeth, the wife of M. V. Marker, of Newberry township; and Henry W. Henry W. Brandt was educated in the public schools of Darke county, where he was engaged in farming, principally on the home estate, until March 1, 1890, at which time he came to Miami county and settled on his present property of 100 acres in Newberry township. During the thirty years that he has made his home here, he has installed numerous improvements in the way of buildings and machinery, and now has an attractive, productive and valuable property, and is numbered among the progressive and well-to-do farmers of his locality. Mr. Brandt married, January 9, 1881, Mollie, daughter of Abraham and Sally (Bashor) Miller, farming people of Miami county, both of whom are deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Brandt there have been born five children: one who died in infancy; Emery, who is associated with his father in farming on the home place; Lawrence, who is employed on a farm north of Covington; Ruth, the wife of Ward Irwin, of Piqua; and Nellie W., the wife of Forest Shellabacker, of Greene county, Ohio. Mr. Brandt's life has been one of quiet and uninterrupted devotion to his home and surroundings and out of his labor and experience have come prosperity and the unqualified regard and esteem of his fellow-citizens. He is a Republican, and he and his wife are members of the Brethren church at Covington, Ohio.

John H. Branson. Of the men who have participated actively in the transformation of Newberry township in an agricultural way during the past several decades, a few are better or more favorably known than John H. Branson, the owner of a valuable farm of 100 acres and a comfortable home on Covington R. F. D. No. 1. Mr. Branson was born in Newberry township, September 18, 1857, a son of DeWitt C. and Charlotte D (Suber) Branson. DeWitt C. Branson was born in Lostcreek township, Miami county, May 1, 1828, son of a pioneer of that region, and followed farming until he entered the 100-day service during the Civil war. At the close of his military career he resumed farming, in which he was engaged in several communities of Miami county, principally Newberry township, where his death occurred in 1906, at which time his community lost one of its public-spirited citizens and progressive farming representatives. There were eight children in the family, of whom seven are living. John H. Branson was educated in the public schools of Newberry township and as a young man took up farming as his life work. He has continued to be thus occupied ever since, with the exception of a short period when he wore the uniform of his country during the Spanish-American war. He is the owner of a good property consisting of 100 acres, upon which he has substantial buildings and modern improvements, and the method and success of his operations have led him to be adjudged one of the progressive and enterprising members of his vocation in this part of Miami county. During the period of the World war Mr. Branson was appointed a solicitor of funds, and was allotted the territory lying between the Clayton pike and the county line, a

district which made an excellent showing with its contributions. A great friend of education, he was a member of the local school board for some years. He is now and has been, since its foundation, a member of the county Board of Education. Mr. Branson married, July 16, 1878, Nancy J., daughter of Joseph and Marie (Shaefer) Lawrence, of Montgomery county, and four children have been born to this union: Albert W., who is associated with his father in farming operations on the home place; Elmer, who married Bessie Rhodes and has one daughter, Ruth, who was born July 16, 1905, is engaged in farming in Washington township, Miami county; Benjamin Arthur, who married Hazel Jane Ewing and has one son, Robert E., born July 7, 1920, an attorney of Cleveland, who saw overseas service during the World war and was the third successive generation of his family to have military experience; and Ruth, who died in infancy. Mr. Branson is a member of the United Spanish War Veterans, and also a member of the Farm Bureau.

Walter Braun. Among the recent commercial acquisitions of Troy is the meat business of Walter and Joseph Braun, which is rapidly building up an excellent patronage and bids fair to become one of the important business assets of the city. Walter Braun was born at Troy, Ohio, March 1, 1890, a son of Nicholas and Mary (Weingartner) Braun, one of seven children born to his parents. He was educated in the public schools of Troy and as a youth learned the butcher's trade, which he followed in various markets until 1917, at which time he embarked in business with his brother Joseph. While the establishment is modest in appearance, the brothers have already built up an excellent patronage through fair dealing, honest representation and courteous service, and their progressive ideas and ambitious hopes may be noted in their recent establishment of a slaughter house along the river. Walter Braun's career was interrupted for a time by the late World war, when he joined the One Hundred and Fortieth Field Artillery and saw service overseas for nine months. He is a popular member of the local lodges of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Mr. Braun married Florence, daughter of John Monck, of Troy, and they had one son, John Thomas, who is deceased.

Paul George Braunschweiger, of Troy, Miami county, Ohio, was born in that city, December 1, 1887, a son of George W. and Sophie (Ellsass) Braunschweiger. George W. Braunschweiger spent his entire life in Troy, dying there April 26, 1909. He and his wife were the parents of the following children: Magdalene, now the wife of Clarence E. Veit, of Wapakoneta, Ohio; Miriam, a teacher at the Edwards school; and Paul George, the subject of this review. Paul G. Braunschweiger was educated in the public schools at Troy, and at the University of Michigan. Subsequently he was for ten months, in the year 1909, employed as a salesman by the Allen-Wheeler Company. He resigned from this position when he became deputy county auditor, a position which he filled to the satisfaction of the community until September, 1911. At this time he formed a connection with the Troy Manufacturing Company,

with which concern he remained until it went out of business in 1919. On February 1 of that year the Troy Body Company was organized, and Mr. Braunschweiger accepted the position of factory superintendent, in which capacity he is now serving his employers, and his executive ability is recognized by his being a member of the Board of Directors of the concern. The Troy Body Company, although organized after the signing of the Armistice, was called upon by the Government, and for a time 100 per cent. of the factory production was taken by the Government. Mr. Braunschweiger has always taken an active part in political affairs, and has been signally honored by his fellow citizens. In 1909 he was called to fill the unexpired term of his father as city councilman. He was just twenty-one years old at that time, and was the youngest man in the United States to hold a political position of the kind. Since then he has again been honored in being elected to the office of councilman for the term 1918-1920. Mr. Braunschweiger is prominent in Masonic circles, being a member of Franklin Lodge No. 14, Franklin Chapter No. 24, Franklin Council No. 14, Coleman Commandery No. 17, of which he was commander in 1919, and he is also a member of Dayton Consistory; Antioch Temple; is a Thirty-second Degree Scottish Rite Mason, and a Noble of the Mystic Shrine. Mr. Braunschweiger married Myrtle V. Woodmansee, daughter of Eberly Woodmansee, of Cheyenne, Wyo.

Addison F. Broomhall, senior member of the law firm of Broomhall & Broomhall, Troy, Ohio, was born at Wilmington, Ohio, in July, 1856, a son of Webb and Adelaide (Finkle) Broomhall. John Broomhall, the original progenitor of the Broomhall family in the United States, was a native of Shropshire, England, and upon his arrival in this country settled in Chester county, Pennsylvania, from whence his descendants have spread to various communities. Addison F. Broomhall has one sister, Mrs. A. C. Quisenberry, whose husband is known widely for his historical writings on Kentucky and other literary work of marked worth and distinction. After attending the public schools at Wilmington, Ohio, and Wittenberg College, Springfield, Addison F. Broomhall located at Troy, where he established himself in the practice of law with Walter S. Thomas as a partner. This association was later terminated and Mr. Broomhall practiced alone for a number of years until joined by his son, Baird. The practice of the firm is largely of corporation character. They are attorneys for the Pennsylvania Railroad, the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad and other railroads and corporations. Mr. Broomhall married Estella Baird, and to this union there were born two children: Baird and Mrs. Corinna B. Coffin. Baird Broomhall was educated at the Troy public schools, University of Michigan and Yale University. From the latter institution he has two degrees; those of Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts. Following a period of study in the law department of Yale and the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, he finished his law studies with his father and joined him in practice at Troy. During the war period, Baird

volunteered for the first officers' training camp, not being called, he enlisted in the Motor Transport Corps. Addison F. Broomhall was chairman of the District Exemption Board No. 3, Southern District of Ohio, with headquarters at Cincinnati, and rendered especially valuable services in that position. He was active in other war activities, being chairman of the memorable County War Chest meeting, held in the fair grounds of Miami county, which gave impetus to the movement which was so successful in providing the county with an overflowing war chest. He is a member of the Troy Club and Troy Rotary Club, belongs to the Presbyterian church; was president of the Board of Education of Troy for a number of years, appointed by the governor of Ohio as a delegate to the National Taxation Conference at Buffalo and served five years on the State Bar Examining Board. Mrs. Broomhall was noted for her activities in all local war movements, a full account of which will be found in the articles dealing with the National Council of Defense and other movements attendant to the war. She has always likewise been a leading spirit in club and church life and in community service work at Troy. She is noted for her ability as an organizer and executive in club and social service work. She is past president of the Altrurian Club of Troy, and is past president of the Ohio Federation of Women's Clubs. She is widely known in connection with the work of the National Federation of Women's Clubs.

M. Belle Brown, M. D. The professional career of M. Belle Brown, M. D., continued over a period of nearly forty years, all of which were passed in New York, although she is now one of the greatly respected residents of Troy, having retired from professional activities. Her active life possessed features of intense interest, inasmuch as it assisted in breaking through the barriers of professional bigotry which sought to bar women from practicing the healing art as a vocation. To her example, winning, by assiduous attention to her calls and by profound knowledge of the art and skill in its practice, a high place among the reputable practitioners of medicine and surgery, no less than by her persistent efforts to open the doors of professional preferment to deserving and properly trained women, has been due largely the rapid advance which the last quarter of a century has shone in giving women the privilege accorded to the other sex of ministering to the ills and accidents of humanity. Doctor Brown was born in Staunton township, Miami county, Ohio, in 1848, a daughter of Daniel and Eliza (Telford) Brown, the latter being a daughter of Andrew Telford, a pioneer of Miami county. Daniel Brown was born at Providence, R. I., his father being Arnold Brown and his grandfather being Rev. Chad Brown, who came from England in 1638 and settled in Rhode Island and who was ordained a minister of the Baptist church in 1642. The great-grandsons of Rev. Chad Brown, John and James Brown, bought and presented land to the State for the site of Brown University, the cornerstone for which was laid in 1770 by John Brown. In the family of Daniel and Eliza Brown



DR. M. BELLE BROWN



there were six children: Cyrus Telford, Cornelia, M. Belle, Rebecca, Arnold and Harry. The early education of M. Belle Brown was acquired in the public schools of Troy, and in 1876 she entered the New York College of Medicine for Women, from which she was duly graduated in 1879. At that time she commenced practice at her office on West Thirty-fourth street, New York City, but in a short time purchased property at No. 30, West Fifty-first street, New York City, and there practiced from 1890 until her retirement. Doctor Brown began her practice among strangers and with no social prestige, in the face of prejudice and among a community intensely devoted to material pursuits she sought employment as a physician, relying upon her own ability and skill to win a way to employment and recognition. Her subsequent experience, during the earlier years, was not free from embarrassment or annoyance, but her thorough knowledge commended her to all with whom she came into contact, and she received the kindly aid and encouragement of some of the most eminent New York physicians and surgeons of the day. During the earlier years her practice took her frequently to the poorer quarters of the metropolis, and she possesses a large fund of interesting experiences to relate of this period of her career. One of the few practicing women physicians of her time, her calls often came at night, and, armed with a physician's badge, her medical and surgical case, she would grope her way through dark tenement hallways, lighted only by the candle which she carried, to the bedside of some unfortunate fellow-creature. At no time during her practice in New York did she refuse to respond to a call, even though there was little or no financial return forthcoming. Later, Doctor Brown decided to take up surgery, and studied with a number of noted surgeons, including the noted Doctor Bull, also attending clinics at New York City and Chicago. Thereafter she gave special attention to surgery, and for various years performed operations in abdominal and pelvic surgery with skill and more than average success. Indeed her reputation for skill passed beyond the boundaries of her city and state, and she was summoned from distant points to perform major operations of a difficult and delicate character. She rose to influence and obtained recognition through solid merit, founded upon good natural abilities, ripened by liberal scholastic training and matured by thorough scientific study and long, continuous and assiduous practice. With all these acquisitions, Doctor Brown fully preserved the innate delicacy of her womanly nature, and was none the less a lady because she was a physician, surgeon and professor. Doctor Brown became a member of the faculty of the New York Medical College for Women, and eventually was made the dean of that institution, succeeding in that post the brilliant Dr. Clemence Sophia Lozier, pioneer physician and surgeon of her sex, the founder of the first medical college for women in New York, a prominent woman suffragist and active in reform and philanthropic movements. Doctor Brown was also a member of the consulting staff of Memorial Hospital, Brooklyn. In 1911, she was forced to undergo an operation at Battle Creek Sanitarium, and this she

underwent without the use of anaesthetics, she herself directing the operation, which proved a decided success. Doctor Brown is also the discoverer of a remedy for mal-de-mere, or sea-sickness, and train-nausea. Ship-shape, the trade name for this medicine, has been widely recognized, is endorsed not only by sea and land travelers of experience and reliability but also by eminent members of the medical profession, and enjoys an excellent sale. After a long and distinguished career, characterized by high attainment, Doctor Brown retired to her old home in Miami county, and in 1917 came to Troy. Here, during the war period, she was intensely active in raising funds for the American Hospital in France, as well as for the Red Cross, working indefatigably in the cause and giving the best of her strength and talents. In her efforts to procure the recognition of women in the higher departments of employment, she has claimed for them nothing on the score of gallantry or sympathy, realizing that the only path to genuine and lasting success is through preparation and fitness for any and all callings to which women may aspire. She has only claimed for them equality under line conditions; and her own example is a stimulating one. Doctor Brown is very proud of the fact that she never lost a patient.

Arnold Owen Brown. One of the highly respected retired farmers of Troy, Arnold Owen Brown belongs to an old and honored family of Miami county, which for generations has contributed to the welfare and advancement of this section of the Miami Valley and which from pioneer days has stalwartly stood for high ideals and the honorable principles which have been exemplified in the lives of its members. Mr. Brown was born on a Miami county farm, February 11, 1852, a son of Daniel and Eliza (Telford) Brown, the latter being a daughter of Andrew Telford, a pioneer of Miami county. Daniel Brown was born at Providence, R. I., his father being Arnold Brown and his grandfather, Rev. Chad Brown, who came from England in 1638, and settled in Rhode Island and who was ordained a minister of the Baptist church in 1642. The great-grandsons of Rev. Chad Brown, John and James Brown, bought and presented land to the State of Rhode Island for the site of Brown University, the cornerstone for which was laid in 1770 by John Brown. Daniel Brown was a lifelong farmer in Miami county, where he owned property in Staunton township, and he and his worthy wife were the parents of six children: Arnold Owen, of this review; Cyrus Telford; Harry W., Dr. M. Belle, a noted woman physician and surgeon, now living at Troy in retirement; Cornelia Jane and Elmira. The brothers of Mr. Brown, who were farmers, are both deceased, as are the sisters, except Dr. M. Belle. Arnold Owen Brown received his education in the district schools of Miami county, and as a youth adopted the family vocation of farming, which he followed successfully until his retirement in 1892. Since that time he has made his home at Troy, where he has several business interests, including directorship in the Troy Wagon Works and the Troy Telephone Company. He is a member of the Troy Club, has shown a good citizen's interest in civic affairs, and during the war was a generous contributor to all

worthy movements. Mr. Brown married Ada E. Sears, of Dayton, Ohio.

Franklin P. Brotherton. One of the business men of Piqua who claims this city as their birthplace is Franklin P. Brotherton, a representative of one of the pioneer families of this locality. He was born in Piqua, October 22, 1852, a son of Philemon and Nancy (Morton) Brotherton, the former of whom was born in Onondaga county, N. Y., and the latter in Erie, Pa. Philemon Brotherton was a brick molder by trade, but in 1835, seeing an opportunity for advancement in the then unsettled Miami valley, made the journey to Piqua and here engaged in the nursery business. He was for many years one of the honored business men of the community, and to him and his worthy wife were born two children: Albert M., and Franklin P., the subject of this biography. Albert M., who is now a retired contractor, served the Union cause in the Civil war for three years as a member of the First Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Franklin P. Brotherton received the advantages of a public school education in Piqua, and upon leaving school formed a connection with the C. L. Wood Lumber Company, which he has maintained since 1880. His long years of active participation in the business affairs of the concern have eminently fitted him to take an important place in the business administration of the firm, and his advice in all matters pertaining to the policy and development of the business is eagerly sought by his associates. Mr. Brotherton was married first to Laura E., a daughter of John Barnes, and second to May Parshal, daughter of Hugh Parshal, of Pennsylvania. Mr. Brotherton has always taken great interest in civic matters, and especially has the problem of the public schools received his attention, and he has given his city able and constructive service during the past thirteen years as a member and president of the Board of Education. He gave whole-hearted support to the Government in the recent war, and served on several committees which worked for the various drives.

Mrs. Emma T. Brown. Among the women of high intellectual attainments who are now residing at Troy, one who formerly contributed many years of splendid service to the cause of education is Mrs. Emma T. Brown. She was born at Calais, Washington county, Me., a daughter of William B. and Lucy (Keen) Taylor. Captain Taylor, who is now deceased, spent the greater part of his life as the proprietor of a hardware store at Calais, with the exception of the period of the war between the North and the South, when he was captain of a company of volunteers in the Twenty-second Regiment, Maine Volunteer Infantry. There were six children in the family: Walter E.; William B., Jr., who was engaged in the plumbing business at Chicago, Ill.; Mary B., who was for many years a teacher in the public schools of Portland, Me., but has given up her educational work in order to care for her widowed mother; Frank H., who has been identified with the postoffice at Calais for about thirty years, under various administrations; Helen L. and Emma T. Emma T. Taylor graduated from the high school

at Calais, following which she went to Farmington, Me., where she took the normal course for teachers. Graduating from that institution, she at once entered upon her career as a teacher, although she has since taken a Chautauqua teachers' course of four years. She was engaged in teaching school for twenty-three years, first ten years in Troy, Ohio, during which time she was principal of the Forest school for six years, in Troy, Ohio, and then for ten years in Portland, Me. Then she taught at the Edwards school for four years. She was a great favorite with parents and scholars alike, and possessed the happy faculty of being able to impart to others the vast store of knowledge which she had accumulated. In 1901 Miss Taylor was united in marriage with Cyrus T. Brown, a native of Troy, who was largely interested in agricultural and mercantile affairs here for many years, and whose death occurred in 1914. Mrs. Brown is a member of the Altrurian Club and the Home Circle and is a leader in intellectual affairs at Troy. During the war she did her part.

H. L. Brown, D. O. In professional circles of Piqua, one who has already attained a generous measure of success and confidence is Dr. H. L. Brown, osteopathic physician. He is a native of Piqua, born April 22, 1892, a son of James and Josephine (Penney) Brown, who are well known in this community where the father is identified with the automobile industry. The only child of his parents, H. L. Brown attended the graded and high schools of Piqua, and after his graduation from the latter went to Miami University for two years. While attending that institution he became interested in the subject of osteopathy and eventually decided upon a career in that profession. Accordingly he enrolled as a student at the Chicago College of Osteopathy, from which he was graduated with his degree after taking a full course of four years. At that time he entered the army as a member of the Medical corps and was assigned to Camp Sherman. After staying there for a period he was sent overseas with the Thirty-second division, being attached to a machine gun unit, and after the signing of the Armistice accompanied his detachment with the Army of Occupation into Germany. He was eventually sent back to this country and was mustered out of the United States service May 29, 1919. In July of that year Doctor Brown came back to Piqua, where he at once engaged in practice. He has succeeded in attracting a large and remunerative clientele, and at this time occupies suite 7, in the Scott-Slawson Building, where he has all the appliances pertaining to the practice of his calling. Doctor Brown has numerous friends throughout the city who are watching his advancement with gratified interest.

J. W. Brown. In reviewing the past thirty-five years of progress in Piqua and Miami counties, Ohio, no name comes more strikingly to the fore than that of J. W. Brown. For many years, as proprietor of Piqua's leading department store, he has taken a leading part in the development of this community's civic and industrial life. Aligning himself definitely on the side of movements which he has thought made for the public good and advance-

ment, his support to such movements has ever been eagerly sought and generously given. Mr. Brown is a native Ohioan, having been born at Athens, a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Hyde) Brown. He early realized the benefits to be derived from education, and applied himself assiduously to his books during the period of his attendance at the public schools of his native community and at Athens College. When his scholastic training had been completed, he joined his father in business, who was a general merchant at Millfield. Subsequently father and son moved to Athens where they conducted a like establishment, and under the father's able guidance the son became well versed in the intricacies of the business. In 1885, desiring a larger field for the exercise of his talents, Mr. Brown came to Piqua where he established himself in business as the proprietor of a department store. This enterprise won the favor of the buying public, and through long years of adherence to an honorable business policy and an unfailing courtesy to customers, a large and profitable patronage has been built up. The success of the business is reflected in the present large store which bears Mr. Brown's name, and which is recognized as one of the leading concerns not only of Piqua, but of the county. In addition to his department store, Mr. Brown is connected with several other important business houses, being a director in the Piqua National Bank, the Piqua Savings Bank and the Piqua Handle Manufacturing Company, and is vice-president of the French Oil Machine Company, in all of which his judgment is held in high esteem by his associates. He is identified, also, with a number of social and civic bodies, and is accounted an active factor in the many avenues of enterprise that make up the life of the community. During the recent war he was an active worker in behalf of the patriotic movements, and was a generous supporter of the Government War Loans, the Red Cross, War Savings Stamp campaign and drives of a like nature. Mr. Brown married Miss Nettie Brooks, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Brooks, of Piqua, and they became the parents of one child.

Otis R. Buchanan, one of the young and enterprising business men of Troy, where he is the proprietor of a flourishing shoe business, was born near Covington, Miami county, Ohio, in 1896, a son of O. F. Buchanan, a well-known agriculturist of that vicinity. The Buchanans were very prominent during the pioneer history of this community, and were among the very first to settle in the locality of Covington. The graded and high schools of Covington furnished Otis R. Buchanan with his educational training, this being supplemented by a commercial course in a business college at Piqua, and when he left school he became a salesman in Worley's Department Store at Covington. From that position he went to a clerkship in the Stillwater Valley Bank and then to the Citizens National Bank, at Covington, where he was situated when called into the United States Army, May 28, 1918. Assigned to the Depot Brigade, at Camp Taylor, he became first sergeant and held that rank until receiving his honorable discharge. Upon his return from military service, Mr. Buchanan became a clerk for E. Kahn, of

Piqua, but in August, 1919, resigned his position and came to Troy, where he opened his present shoe establishment at No. 4 West Main street. Here he has been successful in building up a large and profitable patronage and in establishing a reputation as a sound and reliable merchant. He interests himself in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, and is a valued member of Miami County Council of the American Legion.

Andrew W. Burton, director of public service of the city of Piqua, and a man of broad experience and constructive capability, was born at Casstown, Miami county, Ohio, January 22, 1863, a son of Joel and Sarah (Rogers) Burton, the former of whom was born in the same county in 1826. Mr. Burton's maternal grandfather, William Rogers, was an early settler, and, with Isaac Sheets, built a raft and transported goods down the Miami and Mississippi rivers to New Orleans. Joel Burton passed practically his entire life as a farmer in Miami county, although he also operated a sawmill in Lost Creek township. He and his wife were the parents of seven children: John, Lew, George, Andrew W.; Elizabeth, the wife of Will Sampson; Kate, the wife of Chris Lauer; and Flora, the wife of Will Stewart. Harvey Burton, a son of George Burton, served in the American Expeditionary Forces during the great war, and Horace Stewart, son of Mrs. Flora Stewart, served in the Engineering corps during the period of that struggle. Andrew W. Burton was given his education in the public schools of Casstown, following which he pursued a commercial course at Dayton, and then secured a position with his father. In 1888 he married Katie, daughter of Thomas C. and Nancy Robinson, and following his marriage moved to Piqua, where he entered the employ of the Cron Kilns Company. During this time, from 1910 to 1914, he acted as director of public service. In November, 1917, Mr. Burton entered the Bureau of Aircraft Production, through enlistment in the United States Army, a position for which he was admirably fitted by his extensive business training, as an inspector of lumber in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky. He was mustered out of the service in April, 1919, and subsequently bought a one-third interest in the Wilgus Grain Company, of Lena, and this occupied his attention until he was again appointed director of public service, in 1919, by Mayor Smith. He has since devoted himself to the duties of his office, where he is rendering his city and his fellow-citizens the highest type of conscientious and efficient service. Director Burton is a member of the Masons and the Elks. He and Mrs. Burton are consistent members of the Methodist church and reside in a pleasant home at No. 324 South Main street, Piqua.

John Butts. Few more pronounced studies in contrast are available among the agriculturists of Miami county than that presented in the career of John Butts. Mr. Butts' twentieth century status is represented by the ownership of 106 acres of valuable land in Newberry township. Between the labor-enslaving days of his youth and the prosperous ones of the present have occurred many varied and developing experiences, the very existence of which



MR. AND MRS. JOHN BUTTS

stamps him as a man of courage, initiative and purpose. He was born on a farm in Shelby county, Ohio, July 3, 1869, a son of Rev. Thomas N. and Wilhelmina (Schmeding) Butts. In the family there were five children: Edward; Latimer; John; Ada, the wife of Bert Bacome; and Viola. Mrs. Bert Bacome has one son who served in the United States Army during the World war. John Butts was given the advantages of an ordinary education in the public school in a rural district in Shelby county, and when not engrossed in his studies he was engaged in assisting his father in the work of the home place. When still a young man, however, he expressed a preference for a trade, and accordingly left the farm and after several years was working as a mechanic. Some years later he became a skilled workman in the employ of the Wood Shovel and Tool Company, at Piqua, whence he went to Chicago and was employed in the big plant of the Inland Steel Company. Eventually, however, he turned his attention to the occupation of his youth, and, returning to Ohio, settled in Miami county, where he has since developed his Newberry township farm. At this time Mr. Butts is the owner of 106 acres, all under a high state of cultivation, which he devotes to general farming and the raising of a good grade of live stock. He has made a study of his calling, and carries on his operations in a modern manner than cannot help but be prolific of satisfying results. While he has sought no public offices, he has always taken a good citizen's interest in public affairs and can be counted upon to support movements calculated to be of benefit to the general community welfare. Mr. Butts married September 3, 1896, Anna, daughter of Elias and Laura (Farner) Jones, who had four other children and were well known farming people of Miami county. To Mr. and Mrs. Butts there have been born the following children: Margery, the wife of William Timmerman; Ruth, the wife of Carl Grunert, who served in the United States Army during the World war; and Elsie May, John, Jr., and Edwin C., who reside at home with their parents.

J. F. Caven. Three generations of the Caven family have contributed to the development of the present farm owned by J. F. Caven, a magnificent estate of 596 acres in Brown township. Mr. Caven, who is one of the highly respected retired residents of Piqua R. F. D. No. 6, was born on this farm in 1852, a son of G. B. and Catherine (Simmonds) Caven. The family was founded in this region by the grandfather of Mr. Caven at a time when the Indians were still here in large numbers. The original log cabin home of the family was very near to the scene of the Dilhane massacre and at that time the grandparents of Mr. Caven fled to the protection of a stockade which had been erected some distance to the south of their farm, remaining there until the Indians had been driven from the region. The original buckskin deed, issued at Washington early in the nineteenth century, and conveying the land to the grandfather of Mr. Caven, is still in the latter's possession. G. B. Caven was born on this farm and here spent the entire active portion of his life, carrying on general farming and specializ-

ing in the raising of Short Horn cattle and a good grade of sheep. In the evening of life he and his worthy wife retired to the village of Fletcher, where they died within six weeks of each other, in 1915. Mr. Caven was an exemplary citizen and served his community as school director and township trustee for twenty years. He and his wife were held in the highest esteem in their community, and were the parents of six children: J. F. and a child who died in infancy; two sisters living in Fletcher and two deceased, one of whom was the wife of Robert Morrow. J. F. Caven received his education in the public schools and was reared on the home farm, which he has never left. He is the owner of 596 acres of highly-cultivated land, and although he retired from active pursuits nineteen years ago, still takes a keen interest in the operation of his land and supervises its management. For many years he has been an active participant in local affairs, and has served as a member of the school board and the township board of trustees during a long period. His war activities included membership on committees for the selling of bonds, etc., and in local affairs he has always been a keen supporter of worthy enterprises. In 1885 Mr. Caven married Florence, daughter of A. M. Berryhill, of Fletcher, a member of an agricultural family, and to this union there were born two children: Maude, who married Ralph Brown, an Oregon farmer, and has one son and two daughters; and Carey, the wife of Charles Wiles, of Sidney, Ohio, an agriculturist, and has one son and three daughters. The first Mrs. Caven died and Mr. Caven married Milly B., daughter of J. B. and Josephene (Fletcher) Moore, farming people of the Piqua community of Miami county. To this union there have been born two children: Herbert Milton, a graduate of Piqua High School; and Martha Blanche, who is attending the high school in Brown township.

H. A. Cosley, proprietor of the leading hardware establishment at Troy, and one of this city's old and honored business men, was born at Xenia, Ohio, in January, 1850, one of a large family of children born to James and Margaret (Cromer) Cosley. He began his schooling at Xenia, but when he was fourteen years of age the family moved to Miami county and there he completed his education in the country schools. He was about twenty years of age when he became identified with the hardware business at Troy, and for fifty years has continued to center his activities and abilities in this line of endeavor, being widely known to the trade in the Miami Valley. Mr. Cosley has built this business up to be the leading establishment of its kind at Troy, and its record is an honorable and successful one, reflecting the integrity of the proprietor and the high business ethics which have governed its policy. As a citizen, also, Mr. Cosley has won the respect and confidence of the people of Troy, and during the war period was chairman for Miami county of the Belgian Relief Fund and took part in other war activities. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity. Mr. Cosley married Sarah E., daughter of Rev. P. M. Weddell, of Troy and Piqua, and to this union there have been born the following children: John W., who

is manager of the Cosley hardware business; George, a salesman for this concern; Harvey H., office manager of the Cambria Steel Company's branch at Chicago, Ill.; Robert E., who went overseas as a lieutenant in the Thirty-seventh division, being later transferred to the One Hundred and Forty-eight division and finally to the One Hundred and Forty-fifth division, and a participant in much active fighting at the front, now in Texas with the Delco concern; Anna H., the wife of Will Wright, of Dayton; Helen, the wife of Ed Conrad, of Cleveland; and Martha, the wife of S. H. Pulliam, of Chillicothe, now a resident of Troy where he is connected with the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad.

Charles H. Coble. Among the rising institutions of the city of Tippecanoe City, a substantial force is that of the jewelry business conducted by Charles H. Coble. Mr. Coble was born in Ashland county, Ohio, January 25, 1881, a son of Henry and Mary E. (Young) Coble, the father being a blacksmith by trade and for many years one of the reliable and respected residents of Ashland county, where he commanded an excellent business. One of a family of eight children, Charles H. Coble secured his education in the country schools. He inherited his father's mechanical ability, but it was directed in a different direction, and when he was still a youth he began to learn the jewelry business. For eleven years he conducted an establishment of his own at Forest, Ohio, whence he came to Tippecanoe City in 1917. No branch of merchandising is slower in its growth or more conservative than is the jewelry business. Non-fluctuating values are largely responsible for the condition. It follows, therefore, that men engaged in this line of business are naturally of calm and non-speculative minds, reliable as to morals, definite in their purposes and not easily led from accustomed grooves. No exception to this conclusion has been found in the career of Mr. Coble, who has built up his business through conservative and strictly legitimate methods and at the same time has gained a position of recognized substantiality in the confidence of his business associates and the public at large. Mr. Coble is a member of the Masonic fraternity and has several other fraternal connections, being also a member of civic bodies, through which he has co-operated with other public-spirited men in advancing the interests of his community. The present Mrs. Coble was formerly Edith N., daughter of L. A. Disher, of Sycamore, Ohio.

William T. Coffing. A worthy representative of the best farming element of Spring Creek township, is found in the person of William T. Coffing, who has resided on his present property for nearly forty years. He was born in Warren county, November 25, 1850, a son of Elijah and Sarah (Anderson) Coffing, and comes of an agricultural family, whose members, however, have not been unknown to other walks of life and who have served with honor in civil and military offices. Mr. Coffing's maternal grandfather was a soldier during the War of 1812. One of three children born to his parents, William T. Coffing acquired his education in the public schools of Miami county, coming to this county at the age of six

years with his mother from Warren county. He lived two years in Shelby county, then his mother moved to Miami county, where he has since lived, and was reared on the home farm to habits of industry and honesty and was thoroughly trained in all the arts of husbandry. In 1881 he was married and settled on a farm belonging to his wife's father, of which they inherited fifty acres, to which he has since added until he is now the owner and operator of 150 acres, all under a high state of cultivation. He had many improvements of a modern character, including a set of attractive and substantial buildings, and is justly rated one of the progressive agriculturists of the locality. As a public-spirited citizen he has been a supporter of worthy civic movements and during the period of the World war he was a generous contributor to the various drives carried on to assist in winning the war. Mr. Coffing's first wife, who bore the maiden name of Laura Campbell, and was a daughter of Joseph Campbell, of Miami county, died in 1878, without issue. Subsequently he was united in marriage with Harriet T., daughter of Mathias Lyon, also of this county, and five children were born to them, of whom three are living: LeRoy D., one of the progressive and enterprising farmers of Miami county, who married Birdie Small, and they have one child, William T.; Stella May, who married Benjamin Moore and has two children, Beneta and Lucille; and Cora Myrtle, who married Clarence Maxwell and has one child, Mildred. Two children, Nellie, aged ten, and an infant, are deceased.

Warren Coleman, M. D. In medical circles of Miami county there are no names better known than that of Coleman, three generations of this family having been represented by medical men of skill and distinction at Troy. The present representative of the name in this profession is Dr. Warren Coleman, who has gained an assured place among the learned and capable practitioners of the art in this part of the Miami Valley, and who is also widely and prominently known in Masonic circles. Warren Coleman was born at Troy, Ohio, September 22, 1865, a son of Horace and Mary L. (Aldrich) Coleman, and a grandson of Asa Coleman. The well-known and honored family which bears this name was founded at Troy in 1810 by Dr. Asa Coleman, one of the earliest of Miami county's physicians, who followed his calling after the style of the old-time country physician, traveling many miles, through all kinds of weather, in visiting the bedsides of his patients, located all over the surrounding country. This much-loved old physician was succeeded by his son, Dr. Horace Coleman, who practiced throughout his life at Troy, his birthplace, where he also became widely known and greatly esteemed both for his professional qualities and by reason of his sound integrity and stable citizenship. Dr. Horace and Mary L. (Aldrich) Coleman were the parents of six children: Horace, who is deceased; Edward, whose home is in the West; two sons who died in infancy; Warren; Tessie, and Mrs. Rebe McKimme. After attending the graded and high schools of Troy, Warren Coleman entered upon his medical studies at the Ohio

Medical College, Cincinnati, from which he was graduated with the class of 1888. He began the practice of his profession at Logansport, Ind., where he remained for one year, then returning to Troy, where he has since been in the enjoyment of a professional patronage that has increased steadily in importance and emoluments with the passing of the years. During the past nine years he has maintained a private hospital at Troy. He was conscription board surgeon for Miami county during the war period and in various other ways assisted the Government in carrying out its policies to secure aid for our fighting forces. Doctor Coleman is prominent in Masonry, belonging to all Masonic bodies and being past eminent commander of Coleman Commandery, Troy. He likewise holds membership in the local lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and is identified with the Rotary Club. In 1901 he married Frances, daughter of E. F. Rinehart, of Troy.

Charles A. Conroy. Among the younger business element of Piqua, one who has made rapid strides toward the front in recent years is Charles A. Conroy, the proprietor of a flourishing shoe business and one of the organizers of the Textile Products Company. Mr. Conroy was born at Covington, Ky., July 13, 1887, a son of Charles J. and Catherine (O'Rourke) Conroy. From Covington the family removed to Piqua, where the father followed his trade of stove-moulder and in which city the following children were reared: Rev. James, a graduate of St. Mary's Catholic Theological Seminary of Cincinnati, and now priest of the Catholic church at Sharonville; Rev. William, a graduate of the same institution and now priest of the Catholic church at Oxford, Ohio; Charles A.; and Nora, the wife of Anthony Hemm. Charles A. Conroy was educated in the parochial schools of Piqua and as a youth learned the moulding trade. This, however, did not prove congenial, nor was it satisfying to his ambitions, which ran along mercantile lines, and he accordingly turned his attention to the shoe business, in which he established himself at Piqua in 1913. He now has a modern establishment at No. 208 North Main street, where he carries a full line of footwear and enjoys a splendid patronage. His rating is high in commercial circles and he enjoys prestige as one of the organizers of the Textile Products Company, manufacturers of gloves and other articles, a growing business that promises to be one of Piqua's largest enterprises in the not far distant future. He holds an official position with this concern and has the unqualified confidence of his associates. Mrs. Conroy served as secretary of the local Red Cross Society. They are consistent members of St. Mary's Catholic Church, and Mr. Conroy is a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Mr. Conroy married Nellie, daughter of John Snowball, chief clerk in a railroad office at St. Louis, Mo.

Arthur S. Conway, a worthy representative of the younger class of the farming element of Miami county, who is engaged successfully in carrying on general farming and poultry raising in Newberry township, was born in Miami county, August 21, 1882, a son

of Leo Edward and Katherine (Seas) Conway. His parents were long identified with agricultural affairs in this county, where they were held in the highest esteem. In the family there were five children: Clarence, who is identified with the Young Men's Christian Association at Bradford; Edith, the wife of Orville Durst, of that place; Ruth, the wife of Charles Sloneberg, of Cumberland, Md.; Frances, the wife of Milton Dorman, of Bradford; and Arthur S. Arthur S. Conway was educated in the public schools, and during his youth he made himself serviceable in assisting his father in the routine of the home place. After he reached his majority he commenced farming for himself, and his labors have been attended by well-merited returns. He now has his home place of seventy-nine acres, and both properties are under a high state of cultivation. In addition to farming he devotes a considerable portion of his time to poultry raising, which he has made a profitable feature of his business life. During the recent war period, Mr. Conway was solicitor in various drives, and is credited with having obtained more contributions than any other farmer in Newberry township. Mr. Conway married Myrtle, daughter of William and Anna Wise, of Miami county, and to this union there have been born six children: Luther, Naomi, Lawson, Woodrow, Robert and Dean. Mr. Conway is a Democrat, but has not sought political preferment or public honors.

John Sherman Corwin. In the career of John Sherman Corwin, of Covington, there is found a lesson which may be studied with benefit by the youth of our land, and particularly by those who feel that they are laboring under disadvantages. Mr. Corwin, totally blind, has not allowed his infirmity to discourage him, and today is not only a leading piano and music dealer, but is engaged in ambitious plans for the future, including the enlargement of his business and a pleasurable participation in the active life going on about him. He was born September 1, 1864, the date of the fall of Atlanta during the Civil war, at Covington, a son of Ichabod and Margaret Elizabeth (Orr) Corwin. His father, who was born February 29, 1836, recently celebrated his twenty-first birthday in eighty-four years. Ichabod Corwin hauled the first freight on the Pennsylvania Railroad to Covington, in 1859, and for four years was a soldier of the Union during the Civil war. For many years he was a leading contractor and builder at Covington, but eventually accepted the superintendency of the natural gas office at Covington and was the incumbent of that position for thirty years. He and his wife were the parents of the following children: Sybil, who died as Mrs. Hill, leaving one daughter, Martha M., who as a child of five years was taken into the home of her grandparents, with whom she remained until her marriage to G. W. Weston, of New London, Ohio; Ollie, who is deceased; Will, a resident of South Charleston, Ohio; and John Sherman. John Sherman Corwin received his education in the public schools of Covington and after his leaving high school learned the trade of electrician. It was

while thus working, at the age of twenty-three years, that he lost the sight of one eye through an accident, and later his remaining eye became affected through sympathetic inflammation and he became totally blind. Subsequently Mr. Corwin attended the School for the Blind, at Columbus, and began to arrange his career to conform with the new conditions by which he found himself surrounded. His savings he invested in a piano and music business at Covington, and with undaunted courage and persistent cheerfulness has fought his way, alone and unaided, to a place among the substantial business men of his city. Mr. Corwin's business is already a large and lucrative one, but he is now completing arrangements for the enlargement of his establishment, the plans for which he has drawn himself. Mr. Corwin is very popular in his community, not alone because of the admiration that has been extended to him because of his brave struggle against adverse conditions, but because of a cheerful, courteous personality that of itself readily attracts friendships. Public-spirited in a high degree, he was a liberal contributor to the various drives during the war period, and the local public library has benefited greatly as to equipment through his donations.

Rosalbo W. Crofoot, who is now living in comfortable retirement at Troy, was for a quarter of a century one of the well-known lumbermen of this community, where during his business career he built up a well-merited reputation for high business principles and stalwart integrity. Mr. Crofoot was born at Painesville, the county seat of Lake county, Ohio, April 9, 1845, a son of Andrew and Mary (Greene) Crofoot. His father, a stove-moulder by trade, worked at that vocation at Painesville, Ohio, and Saginaw, Mich., and was a man who was highly respected in these communities. He and his worthy wife were the parents of six children: Rinaldo, a retired clothier now residing in the State of California; Emery, deceased; Lomalino, a resident of Saginaw, Mich.; Isabelle, the wife of Joseph M. Jones, of Saginaw county, Michigan, who was a lieutenant in the Union army during the Civil war; a daughter deceased; and Rosalbo W. R. W. Crofoot secured his education in the public schools of Painesville, Ohio, and Saginaw, Mich., and after leaving school was attracted to railroad work. From brakeman he rose to the position of locomotive engineer and piloted an engine for fourteen years, but in 1893 resigned and came to Troy, where, November 10, he embarked in the lumber business. For more than a quarter of a century he was identified with the lumber industry, in which he won a worthy success in an honorable manner. Recently he disposed of his interests, and, to occupy his time, purchased a garden, where he now finds exercise, pleasure and profit, in growing flowers, plants and vegetables. Mr. Crofoot has shown a tendency to take an interest in civic affairs, and, as a great friend of education, served as a member of the school board for sixteen and one-half years and still retains his place in that body. He is likewise chairman of the library board and in other ways has con-

tributed to his city's well-being. With his family, he belongs to the Methodist church. Mr. Crofoot married Miss Mary Hurley, of Troy, and to this union there were born two daughters: Iva, the wife of Prof. William Cairns, of Troy, who occupies the chair of mathematics at Oberlin College; and Catherine, the wife of Pratt Tracey, of Toledo.

Horatio G. Cress. From the creative ingenuity of a country school-teacher has grown the important toy manufacturing concern of H. G. Cress Company, of Troy, one of the leaders in its lines in the Middle West. The creator of these instructive playthings, and the head of the present large concern, Horatio G. Cress, was born in Montgomery county, Ohio, in 1859, a son of George and Ruth (Mann) Cress. Educated primarily in the public schools of his native county, and at West Milton he furthered his preparation by courses in a commercial school and at Valparaiso University, and Ada, Ohio, following which he began teaching school in the country districts of Union and Monroe townships, Miami county. It was while he was thus engaged that Mr. Cress conceived the idea of advanced methods of teaching reading and spelling for the use of children. These met with almost instant popularity and were followed by other toys. The full history of the growth and development of this industry will be found in the Troy section of the General History of Miami County, a part of this work. Mr. Cress has also been identified with financial undertakings which have proven successful, having been the organizer of the Citizens Bank of Brookville in 1895, the Farmers Bank of Arcanum in 1902 and the Farmers Bank of Englewood in 1911. He likewise has been interested in civic affairs, and during the period of the World war was a generous contributor, of time and money, to the various enterprises outlined by the administration at Washington. Mr. Cress married Amanda, daughter of Abijah Shearer, of West Milton, and to this union there have been born four daughters: Stella, the wife of H. G. Weisenberger, of Troy; Blanche, the wife of S. K. Yarman, of Fort Wayne, Ind.; Helen, the wife of L. N. Graessle, of Troy; and Mary E., the wife of A. F. Eidermiller, major, U. S. A., stationed at Panama.

Ross O. Cromer. The success of Ross O. Cromer, of Piqua, has come as the result of the development of a definite idea, and today he is the proprietor of a flourishing plumbing business which stands as a monument to his industry and good management. Mr. Cromer was born at Lima, Ohio, November 17, 1887, a son of I. F. and Lillian (West) Cromer. Among the seven sons and three daughters in the family were Neal, who served in the United States Army during the recent World war; Stella, who married M. G. Bailey, a member of the Oklahoma bench, and Ralph, a well-known newspaper man of Oregon. Ross O. Cromer attended the public schools of Sidney, to which place his parents had removed when he was a small boy, and when he had completed his studies turned his attention to learning the plumber's trade. After master-



HORATIO G. GRESS AND FAMILY

ing this vocation, he applied himself to its practice at Sidney for a number of years, and in 1914 came to Piqua, in the capacity of journeyman. In 1915, being ready to embark upon an enterprise of his own, Mr. Cromer established himself in business as a plumber, and at this time is located at No. 120 West Ash street. He has developed an extended patronage, and has equipped many of the larger buildings of this community. In 1908 Mr. Cromer was united in marriage with Mildred, daughter of Elmer Dill, of Sidney, and three children have been born to this union: Netta Bell, Paul and Betty Ross. Mr. and Mrs. Cromer are members of the Baptist church and have always willingly and generously supported all worthy movements. During the recent great war they were especially active in their support of the Red Cross Society and the Young Men's Christian Association.

C. C. Cross, president and general manager of the Troy Body Company, of Troy, Ohio, has been identified with the automobile manufacturing industry since 1904 and is one of the best-known men in his line in this part of the State. He was born at Narragansett, R. I., a son of James F. and Sallie (Tucker) Cross, and belongs to one of the old and prominent families of New England, one of the early progenitors of which served as the first mayor of the city of Newport, R. I. After attending the public schools of his native place, Mr. Cross pursued a course in the Rhode Island State College, where he received the degree of Bachelor of Science, and following this took a special course in mechanical engineering at the same college. Subsequently, he was employed by the Nicholson File Company, of Providence, R. I., and then for two years traveled through the West with Mrs. Cross, who was in ill health. Going to Philadelphia he became manager of the Black Diamond File division of the Nicholson File Company, and in 1904 entered the automobile industry with Colonel Pope. He was later associated with the colonel's son, Harold Pope, having charge of the department of the Tribune Motors Company, at Hagerstown, Md. From this concern Mr. Cross went to the Buick Automobile Company and later became assistant superintendent of the Maxwell-Briscoe Automobile Company's plant at Newcastle, Ind. For four years, also, Mr. Cross was identified with the Chalmers Motors Company, after which he assisted in the organization of the Saxon Motors Company, of which he served as general manager until buying in 1916, a one-third interest in the Troy Manufacturing Company, of Troy, manufacturers of automobile bodies, spoken of in the Industrial chapters of this work, which company discontinued operation in 1918. Through his efforts the Troy Body Company was formed in 1919 and he became president and general manager of the new concern. During the war period this company was engaged extensively in making parts for aeroplanes, the company's product including 300 different parts. At this time the concern manufactures bodies for the Chalmers, H. C. S. Special, Liberty, Grant, Monroe, Sears-Scoville, Louisiana, Texas and Scoville cars. Mr.

Cross has a number of important business connections and is also well known in club life of Troy, Dayton and Detroit, Mich., being president of the Pere Marquette Rod and Gun Club. By his first marriage, he had one son: Fulton. His second wife was formerly Miss Olive D. Doucet, of Boston, Mass., and they are the parents of four children: Constance, James, Olive and Laurence.

William G. Crozier, a native son of Piqua, Ohio, whose achievements entitle him to representation in a work of this sort, was born in this city January 3, 1853, a son of William R. and Katherine A. (Statler) Crozier, the former of whom was a pioneer carriage manufacturer at Piqua, having engaged in that business in the year 1835. To him and his wife were born nine children of whom only two are now living: Fannie C., the widow of Ed M. Wilbee, of Canada; and William G. of this review. William G. Crozier was educated in the schools of Piqua, and subsequent to his graduation went into the carriage business with his father, with whom he was associated for thirteen years. He then formed a connection which endured for ten years as shipping clerk with Snyder & Son, of the Pole and Shaft Company. At the expiration of his association with this concern, he bought stock in the L. C. and W. L. Cron Furniture Company, and for two years served this firm in the capacity of shipping clerk. He next went with the Pullman Manufacturing Company in the interest of the Citizens National Bank, and continued in this employment for another period of two years. However, his interest had always been in the pole and shaft business. He entered the employ of the Pioneer Pole and Shaft Company, successors to the Snyder & Son Company, and in June, 1903, his executive ability was recognized by the appointment to the managership of the Piqua plant of this enterprise. Mr. Crozier was first married to Laura A., daughter of H. W. Dorwin, of Gettysburg, Ohio, and to this union was born one child, Henry Dorwin Crozier, who is in Rochester, N. Y., with the North East Electric Company. For his second wife, Mr. Crozier married Della V. Camp. Fraternally Mr. Crozier is a popular member of all bodies of the Masonic order and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In addition to the business activities already outlined, he has been for the past fifteen years a member of the directorate of the Third Savings and Loan Company. He has always taken an active interest in all movements which tended toward the public welfare, and at present is giving excellent service to his fellow citizens as a member of the city council. His stand during the recent war was beyond question, and he gave unstinted aid to all Government activities.

Oliver F. Cutter. During a period of twelve years Oliver F. Cutter has been a resident of Brown township and in this time has not only gained success as an agriculturist but has established a substantial place for himself in the confidence and esteem of the people of his community. He was born in Dearborn county, Indiana, August 3, 1869, a son of Henry H. and Sophia (Ehler) Cutter, who were married in that county. Henry H. Cutter was



JOHN V. DAGANHARDT

born in Germany and was ten years of age when he came to the United States with his parents, the family settling in Dubois county, Ind., where he was reared. As a young man he removed to Montgomery county, Ohio, where he married and engaged in farming until the outbreak of the war between the states, when he enlisted in the company of Captain King, in the Fifty-second regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he served three years and three months. During his military experience Mr. Cutter suffered several wounds, from the effects of which he never fully recovered, and complications which followed caused his death when his son was only six years old. His wife had passed away four and one-half years before. Left an orphan at a tender age, the boyhood of Oliver F. Cutter knew much of hard work, and his education was an indifferent one, gained in the public schools of Montgomery county. He early learned to depend upon himself, and as he was a youth of ambition and determination his experience in his youth served to bring out the best efforts that were in him and to develop his native abilities. After being identified with farming in several capacities in Montgomery county, he came to Miami county and was married, July 28, 1901, and in 1908 bought his wife's father's farm of sixty acres in Brown township, which he now occupies. He has made a success of his subsequent activities and is now classed with the well-to-do men of his locality, being the owner of a sixty-acre tract, all under a good state of cultivation and improved with commodious structures and modern equipment. While he has not sought public office or preferment he has taken a public-spirited interest in all matters which have pertained to the well-being of his locality. Mr. Cutter married Miss Laura Shank, who belonged to a farming family which originated in Pennsylvania, and they had one daughter: Sophia, the wife of Floyd Hill, an engineer at Dayton, who served in the United States Navy during the World war. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Cutter married, July 28, 1901, Miss Stella Hoblit, a member of a farming family of Delbrook, Warren county, Ohio, and three children have been born to this union: Mary, born April 13, 1902, who in February, 1920, married Emerson Wert, a farmer of Fletcher; Laura, born in November 29, 1907, who is attending school at Fletcher; and Ruthie T., born June 25, 1912, who is attending school also in Fletcher. Mrs. Cutter is the daughter of Benjamin Franklin, and Martha (Emery) Hoblit. They married in Indiana and came to Ohio. The mother died when Mrs. Cutter was six months old and her father died April 1, 1908.

John Vinton Daganhardt, lawyer and author, is one of the most scholarly members of the Piqua bar, and has become well and favorably known in literary fields, in the domain of jurisprudence and in civic affairs. Mr. Daganhardt was born near Piqua, December 10, 1881, a son of Henry F. and Malinda (Bixler) Daganhardt, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Pennsylvania. His father was for many years a well-to-do farmer of Miami county

and also operated a sorghum mill. James H. and Harold V., sons of August Daganhardt, a brother of John V., served in the army during the World war. After attending the country schools and the Piqua High School, John V. Daganhardt pursued a course in the Ohio State University, from which he was duly graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Laws and at once commenced practice at Piqua, where he has since attained a position of recognized importance in his profession. He was elected and served for some time as a justice of the peace, and has taken an active part in politics. Mr. Daganhardt is the author of a number of poems which have been published in various newspapers and periodicals in this country. These include the following titles: "My Dog," "The Flag," "To the Future," "Pumpkin Pie," "Grand New Army," and "Where Lilies Bloom for You, Mother Mine." One of his best-known poems, "There's an Old Home in Ohio," was set to music and has had a wide sale throughout the country. It is as follows:

There's an old home in Ohio
That I'm thinking of tonight;
Where I spent my happy childhood,
Where the moonbeams gleamed so bright.
And I seem to see the old folks
With each well-known pleasant scene,
Come the happy thoughts of childhood,
Thrown by mem'ry on the screen.

The same old moon's a shining
O'er the old home midst the trees;
And I wander back to childhood
And the old farm's memories.
And I seem to live in fancy
With each ling'ring scene that glows,
As I dream of old Ohio
Where the Great Miami flows.

There's a tender recollection
Of the faces that I knew;
And the graceful little maiden
With her eyes of brownish hue.
But she's sleeping where the breezes
Carry perfumes from the rose
To her home in dear Ohio,
Where my heart so often goes.

There's a pleasing retrospection
Of old days long past and gone,
While I'm dreaming of the old home
With its joys and mirth and song.
And that is why I'm dreaming
Of the days sweet as the rose;
And my old home in Ohio
Where the Great Miami flows.

Mr. Daganhardt is past president of the Cosmopolitan Club and has several other connections, professional and social.

Charles Dale, one of the prominent and representative citizens of Troy, Ohio, where he has been a factor in journalistic circles and civic affairs, was born at Monticello, Ind., February 26, 1865, a son

of Daniel D. and Ophelia (Reynolds) Dale. His father, who fought as a Union soldier during the war between the States, was seriously wounded at the battle of the Wilderness, and upon his return to civil life resumed his professional duties as an attorney and held numerous civic offices at Monticello, where he was a leading citizen. In the public schools of that city, Charles Dale received his educational training, and upon the completion of his studies became interested in journalistic work. In 1901 he came to Troy, where he bought the Troy Democrat, a newspaper which he has since published and edited, and was likewise the founder of the Troy Daily News. In addition to being a leader in newspaper circles, he has always shown a constructive interest in the civic affairs of his community, and in 1916 was appointed postmaster of Troy, the duties of which position he has discharged in an efficient manner, having been instrumental in improving the service for the people of the city and the surrounding community. He has likewise served as tax commissioner, and at present is a member of the board of trustees of Knoop's Children's Home in the country. Mr. Dale was very active in the sale of war stamps during the war period and acted as the conductor of the campaign in his district which made a very creditable showing, and he likewise took an earnest and unselfish part in promoting and carrying through other measures for the success of American arms. He married Miss Estella Emshwiller, of Hartford City, Ind., and to this union there have been born three children: Dorothy, who married John K. Knoop and has three children, Mark, Janet, and Barbara; Lawrence, who was lieutenant of a depot brigade in the United States service during the great war, and Katherine, who married Griffith Knoop and has one son, John.

Charles Oscar Davis. Among the bankers of Tippecanoe City who in recent years have contributed materially to the financial stability of this section, one of the best known is Charles Oscar Davis, cashier of the Citizens National Bank. Mr. Davis was born at Ginghamburg, Ohio, in 1861, a son of Jacob and Louisa (Fair) Davis, the Davis family being of Virginia origin and the Fair family having been founded in this country in Maryland. Jacob Davis fought as a soldier of the Union during the Civil war, during which struggle, at the battle of Gettysburg, his brother, Lieut. Jeremiah Davis, was killed. The paternal grandmother of Charles Davis was a sister of the Rev. Jacob Young, a minister of the Methodist church and one of the noted early preachers of Miami county. Jacob and Louisa Davis were the parents of two children: Charles and Dora. Charles Davis received his education in the public schools, following which he pursued a course at a commercial college at Dayton and took for his first employment a position as telegraph operator and station agent at Bowling Green, being later employed in a like capacity at Tippecanoe City. He continued to follow the same vocation for many years, but in 1907 entered actively into the big business life of the community when he became cashier, a director and a stockholder in the Citizens National Bank, positions which

he has since retained. This institution is one of the most progressive in the county, owning its own handsome modern fire and burglar-proof banking house, and there is a pronounced optimistic atmosphere pervading and surrounding the institution that strikes the interested observer favorably. As a result, the bank is taking a leading place among the financial enterprises of the county. Mr. Davis is a man of civic spirit and enterprise and his personality has much to do with the success of the bank. During the war period he was untiring in his efforts to attain the quotas sent for his community in the various war drives, and for his constructive services received a certificate from the United States Government. In addition to holding the cashiership of the bank, Mr. Davis is secretary and treasurer of the telephone company of Tippecanoe City and vice-president of the Northern Manufacturing Company. He is a great friend of public education and is serving capably as vice-president of the local school board. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the local lodges of the Masons and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he and the members of his family belong to the Methodist church. Mr. Davis married Miss Margaret A. Moss, of Wapakoneta, Ohio, daughter of Thomas Moss, a prominent merchant of that community. To this union there has been born one daughter, Florence, the wife of Thomas Camby, of Dayton, with one child, Margaret.

George W. Davis, whose contribution to the business prestige of Piqua is a successful drug business at the corner of Ash and Wayne streets, is one of the men of his city who have attained business prominence through their own efforts. He was born at Delphos, Ohio, April 16, 1875, a son of Charles S. and Mary (Hall) Davis, his father being a manufacturer of hoops, staves, etc., at Delphos for many years. There were three children in the family: Jessie; George W., and Grace, the wife of Will Ott, mayor of Bucyrus, Ohio. George W. Davis attended the public schools of Delphos, following which he took up the study of pharmacy at the Ohio Northern University, Ada, Ohio. When he graduated from that institution he came to Piqua, where he was first employed by C. G. Piercey, a druggist, and later by the drug firm of Greenameyer & Company, with which concern he remained for twelve years. In 1917 he bought the drug store at the corner of Ash and Wayne streets, and this he has since conducted with growing success, at this time having one of the best patronized enterprises of its kind in the city and carrying a full line of drugs, medicines, toilet articles, etc. He is a man whose high ideals of business integrity have been reflected in the actions of his entire career, winning and holding for him the respect and confidence of all with whom he has been associated. Mr. Davis was married to Miss Bessie Patterson, who died leaving one son, John A. Later Mr. Davis married the present Mrs. Davis, who bore the maiden name of Cora Russell. Mr. Davis has been interested in the business welfare of his city and is an active and working member of the Piqua Chamber of Commerce. He also is identified with the work of the Young Men's

Christian Association, of which he is a member, and his fraternal affiliation is with the local lodge of Masons. He and Mrs. Davis belong to the Presbyterian church. During the war period he took an active part in Red Cross and other work, and contributed his full share of time, means and ability in the discharge of the duties of public-spirited and patriotic citizenship.

John Deady. Identified with the same line of business for thirty years, John Deady is widely known to the implement trade, and since 1909 has conducted a thriving enterprise at his present location at Troy. Mr. Deady was born in Hardin county, Ohio, April 7, 1863, a son of John and Anna (Davis) Deady. His father, who joined the Union army in 1861, as an infantry volunteer from Ohio, saw nearly three years of service during the Civil war, and after receiving his honorable discharge, in 1864, came to Troy, where he established himself in business as a contractor, a line which he followed throughout his career. He and his wife were the parents of nine children, of whom five are still living: Joseph, William, George, Minnie and John. John Deady received a public school education at Troy, and as a young man moved to Casstown, where he embarked in the threshing business. For seven years he operated his machine on farms in various parts of this section, and then retired from that line of endeavor to embark in the implement business. In one way or another he has been associated with the sale of implements and machinery for over thirty years, and there are few men better informed in this line than he. In 1909 he opened his present establishment at Troy, and here has built up a large and representative patronage, for whose custom he carried a complete and up-to-date line of implements, machinery, etc. Mr. Deady is a good business man who maintains a policy of fair dealing and honorable representation and who has made his name synonymous in business circles with integrity. He is a popular member of the local lodges of the Masons, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. As a citizen he has supported all worthy civic enterprises, and during the war period was a liberal contributor to war movements. Mr. Deady married Molly, daughter of Jacob Easty, of Huntington, Ind., who died leaving two children: Clara, the wife of Kenneth McClure, of Bellefontaine, and Carleton, who is associated with his father in business. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Deady was united in marriage with Minna, daughter of Linley Clark, of Clinton county, Ohio.

Hon. Van S. Deaton, M. D. Because of his high standing in the medical profession and the value of his services in official affairs, Dr. Van S. Deaton is justly accounted one of the most prominent citizens of Troy, of which city he is at present mayor. He was born at Christiansburg, Ohio, in 1847, a son of Nathan and Sarah (Scobey) Deaton, and a grandson of George Deaton. George Deaton, who was a native of Virginia, fought as a soldier during the War of 1812, and married Susan Ream, who was born in Virginia in 1787. Sarah Scobey, the mother of Doctor Deaton, was

a daughter of William Scobey, of Christiansburg, The parents of Doctor Deaton had the following children: Lydia, who became the wife of Jason Cutler, of St. Paul, Kans.; Emory G. (Grover), who was a neighbor of the famous John Brown, of Kansas; Emma D., who became Mrs. John McMorrow, of St. Paris, Ohio; William Dyke, who married Mary Stafford and is a resident of New Carlisle, Ohio, and Dr. Van S. Van S. Deaton was primarily educated at Christiansburg, subsequently attended the normal school at Lebanon, Ohio, for two years, and in 1864 entered the Union army and saw service at New Orleans. Subsequently, he taught school and during this period began to read medicine. His professional education was furthered at the Medical College of Cincinnati, from which he was duly graduated June 9, 1873, and at that time began practice at Christiansburg. Later he established himself at Alcona, but about 1885 came to Miami county, locating near Troy, and in 1915 took up his residence in this city, where he has an excellent practice. He stands high in his profession, and in the respect of his fellow-practitioners and the confidence of his patients. Doctor Deaton's first political position of any consequence was that of coroner of Miami county. He was a member of the board of examiners for teachers for twelve years, and pension examiner for soldiers for more than twelve years, likewise serving on the school board. Doctor Deaton was elected to the State legislature in 1893 and served eight years in that body, during which time he rendered valuable services to his community, constituents and State. He was the author of the bill providing pensions for all dependent blind persons who have been residents of Ohio for five years or more and of the bill for the placing of American flags on all schoolhouses, and was one of the floor leaders in the house of representatives during his terms. He became a candidate for the office of mayor of Troy and was elected thereto in 1919 by the largest majority ever given a candidate for that position. His administration has been characterized by municipal reforms, enforcement of the laws and the acquirement of needed improvements. He has always been a supporter of enterprises for civic betterment, was instrumental in placing state archaeological and geological reports in all high schools of Miami county and was prominent in the movement to enact a law which, by treatment of all children's eyes at birth, provided for prevention of blindness. During the period of the great war, he was a four-minute speaker. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Junior Order of United American Mechanics and the Grand Army of the Republic. Doctor Deaton was married to Laura, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Shidaker and to this union there were born two sons: Ross, and Dr. Ernest Heber, who graduated from Ohio Medical College, served three years in the regular army and saw service in the Philippines, and at his death left one child, Laura Ernestine.

Lewis H. Dershem, of Newberry township, who has been long and closely identified with its agricultural development and prosperity, and is now living in practical retirement on Covington R. F.

D. No. 2, was born in Darke county, Ohio, March 24, 1855, a son of Abraham and Hulda (Hale) Dershem. The parents were highly respected farming people of Darke county, where they passed peaceful and useful lives, and were esteemed by all who knew them. They had six children: Lewis H., and Harvey, an attorney of Greenville, Ohio, and four daughters deceased. Lewis H. Dershem attended the district schools in the rural community in which his uncle Aaron Dershem's farm was located in Darke county, and as a lad assisted the elder man in the cultivation of the home acres. He rented land in Franklin township, Darke county, until 1902, when he came to Miami county, and located in Newberry township, where three years previously he had purchased seventy-four acres of land. In 1912, he bought twelve acres, on which he moved and retired. In 1918, he sold the home farm to his son, who now makes his home there. Mr. Dershem is now living practically retired on the twelve acres on which he has a comfortable home and modern conveniences and is spending the evening of life amid pleasant surroundings, in the knowledge of a well-spent career. Mr. Dershem married Callie W., daughter of Peter and Anna (Rudy) Wefeler. She was born at Circleville, Piqua county, Ohio, whence her parents moved to Darke county and later to Miami county, she being one of seven children, of whom six grew to maturity. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dershem: Orrie M., Harley A., Aaron J., Frank O., and Glenn W. During the World war period the members of this family took an active part in working for the various movements formulated for the success of American arms, and the youngest son, Glenn W., made quite a record in the way of selling war saving stamps. The family is greatly respected in Newberry township, where its members have numerous friends.

Milton T. Dilts. During a period of nearly thirty years Milton T. Dilts has been almost constantly before the people of Troy in positions of public preferment, and his record therein fully entitles him to the confidence of his fellow-citizens as a conscientious and capable public servant. At present a member of the board of commissioners of Miami county, he was born in Concord township, this county, a son of William B. and Frances (Taylor) Dilts, and a nephew of Frank R. and John Dilts, who served as soldiers of the Union during the war between the North and South. Mr. Dilts is the eldest of three children: Milton T., Charles F., and Mrs. Luella Palsgrove. After attending the public schools of Chesterfield and Muncie, Ind., where his parents resided during his boyhood, Mr. Dilts learned the trade of brick layer, from which he developed into a contractor. On coming to Miami county he soon took his place among the leading building contractors, and among the structures which stand as monuments to his skill and workmanship may be mentioned the Masonic Temple at Troy, the First National Bank, the Haynes Distillery, and numerous residences. He also did considerable construction work at Piqua, Ohio, Louisville, Ky., and Anderson, Ind. At one time in his career, Mr. Dilts was the owner and operator of a brickmaking yard near Anderson, Ind., which had

a capacity of 50,000 bricks daily. Early in his career Mr. Dilts interested himself in politics and was elected a member of the city council. After twenty-five years of splendidly constructive service, in 1914 he was elected mayor of the city, and when his term expired was chosen a member of the board of commissioners of Miami county, entering upon his duties in that position in 1919. Mr. Dilts has a wide acquaintance among prominent men and is deservedly popular. As a fraternalist he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, and the Improved Order of Red Men. He married Nannie H., daughter of Daniel Knisely, and they are the parents of two daughters: Pearl L., the wife of J. Forest Stephens, of Troy, and Miss Edith May, who resides with her parents.

Charles W. Douglass. Among the old and honored citizens of Troy who have lived in well-earned retirement after many years of honorable identification with the city's business interests, none were held in higher regard than Charles W. Douglass, former treasurer and a director of the Troy Carriage and Sunshade Company. Mr. Douglass was born at Ithaca, N. Y., March 26, 1843, a son of William and Caroline Douglass, and died November 3, 1920. His father, who was a tobacconist, was in business at various points, principally Geneva, N. Y., and was a man of worth and standing who had the confidence of his associates. There were three children in the family: H. F., who is now president of the Troy Carriage and Sunshade Company; Charles W., and a daughter who died in infancy. Charles W. Douglass attended the country schools of Cayuga county, New York, and the Seneca Falls Academy, and upon the completion of his education was attracted to the railroad business, as were many youths of his day and locality. He accordingly studied telegraphy, the mastering of which gained him a position as railroad telegraph operator, a line of work which he followed for five years. After this he entered the employ of the Western Union Telegraph Company, at Cleveland, Ohio, with which concern he was identified for thirty-seven years, rising from operator to superintendent clerk. Coming to Troy in 1903, Mr. Douglass and his brother, H. F., became identified with the Troy Carriage and Sunshade Company, Mr. Douglass as treasurer and his brother as president. A full history of this concern will be found in the industrial part of this work. Mr. Douglass retained the treasurer-ship of this concern until 1915, at which time he resigned and retired from active affairs, although he still retained his connection with the company as a member of the board of directors. Mr. Douglass was largely instrumental in outlining the policy by following which this company rose to a place among the leading manufacturers of Troy, and during a long period of years his connections with business and financial affairs in the city have been varied and important. He also had numerous social and civic attachments, and during the war period was a liberal contributor to all war movements. Mr. Douglass married Julia, daughter of Harley and



MR. AND MRS. C. W. DOUGLASS AND GRANDSON

Mary (Horton) Brownell, of Cayuga, N. Y., and to this union there have been born two children: Charlie, who died in infancy, and Edwin, a vocalist and teacher of vocal music of Cleveland. Mr Brownell was one of the first conductors of the Cleveland-Toledo Railroad.

H. Franklin Douglass, president of the Troy Sunshade Company, is one of the citizens of this thriving community who has firmly established his status as a sound and reliable business man of worth and judgment. He was born at Geneva, N. Y., a son of William and Mary Caroline (Felthousen) Douglass, and as a youth was taken by his parents to Seneca Falls, N. Y., where he was given the advantages of a public school education. There also he learned the art of telegraphy and subsequently followed that vocation at Cleveland, where he had as neighbors the Rockefeller brothers, John D. and William, at that time engaged in the grain business in the Forest City. Coming to Troy some years ago, Mr. Douglass embarked in the coal business, and, after having been identified with a number of enterprises, all of which benefited through his wise judgment and business acumen, he associated himself with August G. Stouder and others in the formation of the Troy Carriage Sunshade Company, of which concern he has since been president. Not only through the development of this enterprise, but through his connection with other business concerns and with civic affairs, Mr. Douglass has been a material factor in the upbuilding and development of Troy, and no public enterprise is considered complete that does not have his name on its list of supporters. A complete history of the Troy Carriage Sunshade Company will be found in the industrial section of this work. He is married and has one daughter, the wife of Bond Houser, of this city. Mr. Douglass was married in 1911 to Lillian Thurber, a daughter of Wm. F. and Florence (Turk) Thurber, of Addison, N. Y. There were two children in this family: W. H. and Mrs. Douglass.

Lee Albert Dunham, a veteran of the World war and a progressive young business man of Covington, was born at Laura, Miami county, October 22, 1894, a son of Frank and Grace (Myers) Dunham. Mr. Dunham was educated in the public schools of Covington and as a youth learned the barber's trade under his father. His career was interrupted by the entrance of the United States into the great World war, and July 24, 1917, Mr. Dunham enlisted in the United States Army and was assigned to Company A, One Hundred and Forty-eight regiment, Thirty-seventh division. He was subsequently transferred to the medical detachment at Camp Lee, and was assigned to the first aid contingent overseas, seeing active service on the front line in Belgium and France. He was gassed at the first drive in Belgium, also in the Argonne Forest; was wounded several times, though not seriously. His contingent saw much active fighting, as is shown in the history of this valiant organization in the military section of this work. On his return to the United States and his subsequent recovery from his injury, Mr. Dunham joined his father in the proprietorship of the leading

tonsonial parlors at Covington. The business is a thriving and growing one and Mr. Dunham is one of the most popular young men of his community. He married Carrie, daughter of William Seng, of Covington. He is a member of the Masonic lodge, the American Legion, and the Presbyterian church, and is a Republican in politics.

C. W. Duvall. During a period of more than a quarter of a century, C. W. Duvall has conducted a tailoring establishment at Piqua, and in this time has built up a substantial reputation for honest and reliable workmanship and honorable dealing. He is a native of Delaware, Ohio, and a son of George F. and Sarah (VanHorne) Duvall, the latter a member of the well-known Van-Horne family, three of whose brothers, LeRoy, Marion and Gerard fought as soldiers of the Union during the war between the States. When C. W. Duvall was still a child, his parents removed from Delaware, Ohio, to Columbus, and at the state capital his father established himself as proprietor of a tailoring business. The lad secured his education there in the public schools, after leaving which he became apprenticed to the tailor's trade under his father, who taught him thoroughly and comprehensively in every branch of the vocation. About 1893 C. W. Duvall came to Piqua and engaged in the tailoring business and for twenty years continued at the same location, in 1913 coming to his present store. Here he has the latest selection of high grade goods, and, being a practical merchant tailor, cuts, fits and finishes all garments sold at his establishment. He is likewise a designer of taste and talent, while as a business man he possesses many good qualities. Mr. Duvall married Edith, daughter of J. V. Seibert, of Piqua, and they were active in the various movements carried on during the period of the war, being particularly generous in their support of the Red Cross Society.

E. E. Edgar, one of the leading business citizens of Troy, and treasurer and general manager of the Hobart Manufacturing Company, was born at Wilmington, Ohio, November 11, 1870, a son of Rev. George M. and Mary B. (Brindle) Edgar. His father, who was a minister of the Methodist church, was a circuit rider in Miami county and adjoining territory during the early days, and later filled many pastorates. E. E. Edgar secured a public school education and when a youth took employment with the Troy Carriage Sunshade Company, subsequently becoming one of the principal factors in the development and growth of that enterprise. Later, with A. G. Stouder and others, he purchased into the Hobart Manufacturing Company, a full account of which concern will be found in the Troy section of the industrial history of Miami county, in this work. Through his capable management, he has aided materially in bringing this concern to its present prestige. He is interested in the Troy Metal Products Company, an enterprise organized for the manufacture of devices used by the United States Government in prosecution of the war, one of its principal products, for which it received and filled large contracts, being an adapter for use



CON F. DREES AND FAMILY

in shells. The concern was originally established at Cincinnati, to insure the securing of ample labor, but was later moved to Springfield, where it is now engaged in the manufacture of metal products. Mr. Edgar is also a director in the Troy National Bank. He married Elizabeth M., daughter of John M. and Anna (Carver) Campbell, and they are the parents of one son, John Campbell. During the period of the World war, Mr. Edgar was active in all local war movements. In this work he was assisted by Mrs. Edgar, who became noted for her tireless efforts in behalf of movements that claimed the attention of patriotic women, a full account of which will be found in the Troy section of this work.

Con F. Drees, one of the leading manufacturers and merchants of Covington, who is engaged in manufacturing toys and dealing in coal, was born at Covington, January 20, 1873, a son of Henry and Agnes (Neth) Drees, natives, respectively, of Westphalia and Wurttemberg, Germany. Henry Drees came to the United States in 1855 and for many years was the proprietor of a dry goods establishment at Covington, which is now conducted by his son, J. H. Drees. There were eight children in the family: Rosa, the wife of William Deubner; George, who is engaged in general merchandising at Bradford, Ohio; J. H., successor to his father's dry goods business at Covington; William, the proprietor of a sawmill business; Agnes, the widow of George Brooks, of Piqua; Katherine, also a widow, and the mother of one daughter; Paul, who is the proprietor of a grocery at Covington, and Con F. Con F. Drees received his education in the public schools of Covington, and after being variously employed in minor occupations was made assistant postmaster of Covington, a position which he retained two years. At that time he heard the call of the West and went to the state of Washington, but after one year came back to Ohio and located at Covington, where he secured a position as salesman with the Beaver Soap Company, for which concern he acted as traveling representative for four and one-half years. His next connection was with the Andrew Jergens Company, of Cincinnati, as salesman in the service of which company he also spent four and one-half years, and then entered business on his own account as a manufacturer of talcum powder. The start of the World war made a change in Mr. Drees' business, just as it did in thousands of other cases, and he began the manufacture of sheet metal toys, an enterprise which he built up to large proportions. Unsettled industrial and other conditions have affected this business to some extent, but it is still a large and important concern, with customers in various parts of the world. In addition to his manufacturing business, Mr. Drees is a dealer in coal, and the people of Covington practically depend upon him alone for their supply of this fuel. He has an excellent reputation for business integrity, built up through years of honorable dealing. Mr. Drees is a thirty-second degree Mason of the Scottish Rite, a Royal Arch Mason and one of Covington Blue lodge's most popular members. He has long been a leader in Democratic politics at Covington, where he is a member of the cen-

tral committee of his party and was formerly chairman of the Democratic county organization for two years. In 1913 he was a presidential elector for Woodrow Wilson. In 1918 Mr. Drees was a candidate for the State senatorship of his district, but met with defeat by a small margin, and in 1920 is again the candidate of his party for membership in the State senate. During the World war period, he was a four-minute speaker and campaigned in behalf of funds for the different drives with splendid results. Mr. Drees married Sarah V., daughter of Jacob G. Wagner, a manufacturer of tile and brick at Covington, and to this union there have been born two children: Gail Conrad, who is deceased, and Harriet, who is attending the Covington public school.

George Harry Edmunds, the genial and courteous proprietor of the Depot Restaurant, at Troy, has been a resident of this city since childhood and has conducted his present establishment since 1910. He was born at Eaton, the county seat of Preble county, Ohio, September 24, 1879, a son of George H. and Caroline (Davidson) Edmunds. His father, a native of the northern part of Ohio, was a traveling salesman by vocation and he and his wife were the parents of six children, of whom four are living: Frances, Hazen, Ruby, and George Harry. George H. Edmunds received his education in the public schools of Troy, after leaving which he was variously connected with the restaurant business until 1910, when he opened the Depot Restaurant. During the ten years of its existence this establishment has become popular with the traveling public, as well as with a large local patronage, and its excellent cuisine and efficient and courteous service has caused it to acquire a high standing and a reputation that has greatly enhanced its prosperity. Mr. Edmunds is a popular member of the local lodges of the Masons and Fraternal Order of Eagles. He married Harriet, daughter of Lon Covault, of Miami county.

Levi Falknor, than whom few among the representative farmers of Newberry township have accomplished more substantial progress, is living on his finely cultivated farm in the vicinity of Covington, where he is greatly esteemed and respected. This veteran of the Civil war was born in Newberry township, January 21, 1840, a son of Jacob and Hannah (Grubb) Falknor, the former family having originated in Pennsylvania. Mr. Falknor secured his education in the public schools and remained at home on the farm until his marriage, at which time he embarked in operations on his own account. Shortly thereafter his career was interrupted by the exigencies of war, and August 7, 1862, he enlisted for service in the Union army, under Captain Drury and Colonel Brezell, of Greenville. In an engagement near Richmond, Ky., Mr. Falknor was wounded and captured by the enemy, and after his exchange was honorably discharged on account of disability, and returned to his home. Since that time he has applied himself industriously to farming, and his labors have been crowned with well-merited success. The same loyalty and patriotism that he showed during the Civil war were displayed by him during the World war, when he

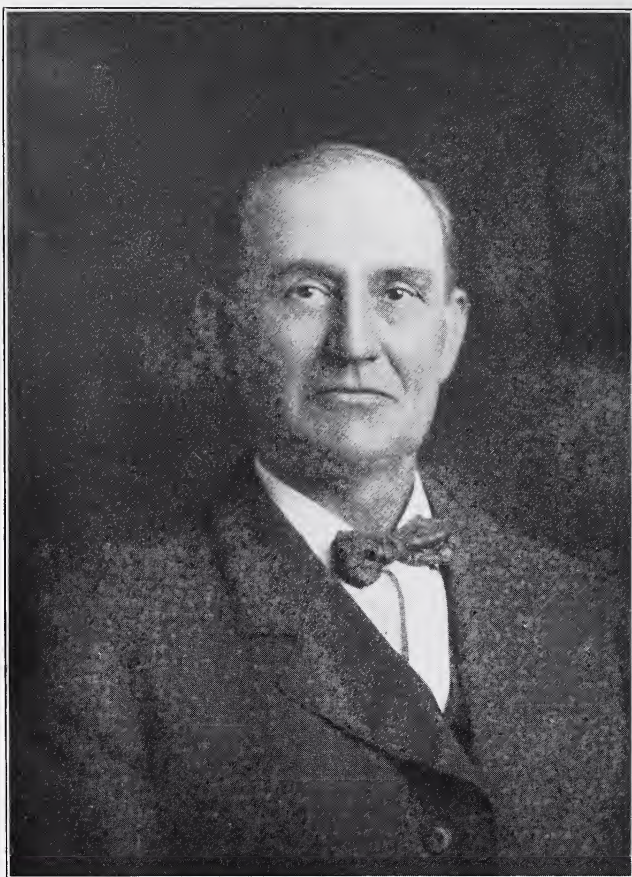
gave his generous support to every movement tending toward the success of American arms and the support of the Government. In 1862 Mr. Falknor was united in marriage with Zephora, daughter of John and Lydia (Rike) Lindsay. Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay were the parents of five children, of whom one, Charles, served in the Civil war. To Mr. and Mrs. Falknor there have been born six children: Lon, an attorney and ex-member of the state legislature of Seattle, Wash., who had two sons in the World war, Judson and Bennett, the latter a graduate of the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis; Mrs. Mollie Slick, of South Bend, Ind., who had two sons in the United States Army during the World war, Glen and Ralph, the former of whom saw active service in France; Mrs. Bessie Harst, of South Bend, Ind.; Mrs. Grace Albaugh, who had one son, Worley, who served in the army during the World war, and who is now an instructor at Carnegie Institute; Greeley, who is unmarried and resides with his parents; and Lester, who married Martha Routson, and resides on the home farm.

Sterrett Faulkner, secretary and treasurer of the Dayton and Troy Automobile Company, and one of the progressive and energetic business men of Troy, was born in this city, a son of E. M. and Ella (Sterrett) Faulkner. E. M. Faulkner was for years the owner of a drug store at Troy, and after his son had completed a public school course he took a course in pharmacy at the Ohio Northern University at Ada and embarked in the drug business as his father's associate. In 1909 Mr. Faulkner turned his attention to the automobile business, and after having had several connections became secretary and treasurer of the Dayton and Troy Automobile Company, distributors of Ford automobiles at Dayton, Troy, Sidney and Piqua, with buildings at all of these cities. The business has grown and developed to large proportions, and at this time the company has an annual sale of 1,800 cars. Mr. Faulkner is an energetic and enterprising business man, possessed of fertility of commercial resource and being held in the highest confidence by his associates. He has several social and fraternal connections and has interested himself in civic affairs according to the dictates of good citizenship. His religious connection is with the Presbyterian church. Mr. Faulkner married Sadie, daughter of Arthur Beadle, of Troy, and they are the parents of one daughter, Dorothy. During the war period, Mr. Faulkner was in charge of the advertising and publicity departments of the Troy section in the various campaigns formulated to arouse interest in war activities.

Oran Webster Fenner. Self-obtained property, liberal views, ambitions expressed in promoting farming, education, religion and honesty of purpose, as well as unquestioned public and private integrity, constitute the fundamentals upon which rest the enviable standing of O. W. Fenner, one of the substantial agriculturists of Monroe township. Mr. Fenner has resided in this township all his life, having been born on his present farm January 5, 1857, a son of Allen and Delilah (Yount) Fenner, and on both sides of the family comes ancestry which formed a part of the sturdy pioneer element

of this locality. His paternal grandfather, August Fenner, was one of the early residents of Monroe township, having been the original settler of the property on which his grandson now makes his home. Three of the grandfather's sons, A. C., T. K. and J. B. Fenner, fought as Union soldiers during the Civil war. Allen Fenner, the father of O. W., was born in Monroe township and passed his entire life here in the pursuits of agriculture. He was a man of sound principles and was held in the greatest respect by those among whom he spent his life. He married Delilah Yount, whose father, Solomon Yount, was one of the pioneers of Montgomery county, and to their union there were born four children: James H., Sarah Caroline, Arnold and O. W. O. W. Fenner acquired his education in the rural schools and was reared amid agricultural surroundings. Early trained in the duties of the farm, when he reached man's estate he adopted the vocation of farmer for his own and has followed it with continuing success to the present time. He is now the owner of a goodly part of the old homestead, which he has brought to a high state of cultivation and on which he has made numerous improvements of a modern and attractive character, including a commodious and comfortable home, good barns and substantial outbuildings. Mr. Fenner married, February 8, 1880, Clara, daughter of John and Rosanna (Sheets) Becker, and to this union there have been born four children: John A., who is a building contractor, who married Edith Fox. They reside at Shiloh, Ohio, and have one daughter, Madge; Howard, who attended Miami University and during the World war went into training at Camp Taylor. He is now a traveling salesman for the Burroughs Adding Machine Company, of Detroit, Mich. He married Pauline Tafel and they reside in Toledo, Ohio; Myron, who attended the Ohio State University, went into military training at Camps Custer and Taylor, and is now a student at Cornell University; and Bessie, the wife of A. W. Klepinger, and they reside on a farm near Englewood, Ohio. They have five children: Robert, Frank, Aletha, Miriam and Carl. The position of Mr. Fenner in the community is that of a man who has lived according to the best that he knew, whose abilities have been trained upon the things that are worth while, and whose general character is such as to win him those most splendid and satisfying of rewards, the consciousness of well doing, and the esteem of his fellow-men. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias. He has been a member of the school board and attends the Christian church.

Eli B. Duncan, who is numbered among the energetic and thriving agriculturists of Newberry township, and a citizen who has rendered sterling service to his community, has been a lifelong resident of Miami county. He was born on a farm in Monroe township, October 9, 1863, son of Amos and Sarah (Hollingsworth) Duncan, his parents being farming people of that community who were highly esteemed by their fellow-townpeople. The only child of his parents, Mr. Duncan was given a district school education and grew up on the home farm, where he was associated with his



ELI B. DUNCAN



MRS. ELI B. DUNCAN

father in farming operations until 1909. In that year he came to Newberry township, where he purchased his present property, a tract of 112 acres, on which he has operated successfully as a general farmer and raiser of a good grade of live stock. Mr. Duncan has made many improvements on his property, and this now compares favorably with other farms in the township and reflects the owner's progressiveness. Mr. Duncan married, May 1, 1890, Miss Minnie Switzer, who died in March, 1901, leaving two children: Edward M., who is engaged in farming in Newberry township; and Ruth E., the wife of Hobart Fulker, of Piqua. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Duncan married, March 15, 1910, Matilda, daughter of Adam and Elizabeth (Sheets) Shaefer, farming people of Clark county, and to this union there has come one son: Robert, who was born in 1912 and is now attending school. Mr. Duncan has always taken a keen interest in the affairs of his community, and during the World war period was appointed a solicitor of funds for the various war activities, being allotted the northeastern block of Newberry township. He has been public-spirited in his support of civic movements, and the confidence in which he is held by his fellow-citizens has been shown in his election to membership on the school board of Staunton township, on which he served with ability for eight years. He and the members of his family are highly thought of in their several communities, where they have numerous friends.

Wilbur C. Flory. While still numbered among the younger generation of business men of Covington, Wilbur C. Flory has already attained a gratifying success in mercantile circles, and is rapidly building up a large and prosperous grocery business. Mr. Flory is a product of the farming districts, having been born in Miami county, January 5, 1890, a son of Wesley and Fannie (Pemberton) Flory. His parents were well-known and greatly respected residents of the agricultural community, where they have passed the active portion of their careers in the pursuits of the soil. There were two children in the family: I. J., who is a clerk at the Columbia Club, Indianapolis, Ind.; and Wilbur C. Wilbur C. Flory was educated in the public schools of his native locality and at Covington High School and passed his boyhood and youth on the home place. Farming, however, did not attract him, and after one year spent under the parental roof he went to Indianapolis, where for twelve years he was identified with the dairy lunch business. During eight years of this time he was manager of an establishment, a position in which he acquired much valuable information and experience in business methods. Coming to Covington May 8, 1918, he embarked in the grocery business, with which he has been identified to the present time, and in which, as before noted, he is achieving an enviable success. Mr. Flory has a well-kept establishment, attractive in appearance and sanitary in all conditions, and carries an intelligently chosen stock of fancy and staple groceries. His custom comes from some of the best families of Covington, and his personal courtesy and known integrity have combined to gain him friends and establish him firmly in public

viously. He served for some years as a member of the board of school directors of Staunton township and was thoroughly respected and esteemed. Four sons and four daughters were born to John H. and Ruth Foster: Edward W., a resident of Clark county, Ohio, where he is engaged in farming, and who travels to various parts of the country in his capacity as an auctioneer; Alice, the wife of J. C. Moore, a clothing merchant of May, Ohio, with two sons and two daughters; Elizabeth, the widow of Frank C. Duncan, formerly a locomotive engineer, who had five children, of whom two are living; Ida, unmarried and a resident of Troy, Ohio; Rosie, the wife of Elmer Fish, of Troy, with two sons: William H.; and three sons who are deceased. William H. Foster acquired a public school education in Staunton township and for many years was actively engaged in cultivating the soil of this locality, but in 1917 retired from personal participation in the actual labor of the fields, having since contented himself with the supervision of operations. He is the owner of a valuable and attractive property, with a handsome home on Troy R. F. D. route, and has always managed his affairs in a manner that has made evident his integrity, progressiveness and public spirit. During the World war he was a member of several Liberty Loan committees and worked sturdily in their behalf. His record as a public servant has been an excellent one, Mr. Foster having been a member of the board of school directors for twenty-two years, assessor of the township for twelve years, member of the Miami county fair board for eight years and infirmary director for two terms. He belongs to the Odd Fellows and Elks at Troy. Mr. Foster married Miss Meldora Secrest, of Miami county.

James R. Duncan. Few of the residents of Miami county have achieved a greater success in the vocation of farming than has James R. Duncan, a venerable and highly respected citizen of Spring Creek township and the owner of 1,100 acres of valuable farming land. Mr. Duncan was born November 10, 1836, in the province of New Brunswick, Canada, a son of Robert and Jane (McClintock) Duncan, his father being a native of Ireland who immigrated to Canada in young manhood and there spent the rest of his life. There were seven children in the family, of whom three are still living: Mary, the wife of William Riddle, of Miami county; Cassie, the wife of Jacob Bowne, also of this county; and James R. Robert Duncan was married in Donegal county, Ireland, after which he came to New Brunswick, where he remained for five years. At this time he came to the United States, where he followed the vocation of a school teacher. With his wife and three children he located in Staunton township, Miami county, where he began farming and teaching, and lived here until death, his wife surviving him twenty years. He was a Democrat and a member of the Methodist church, very strict in his religion. James R. Duncan was educated in Staunton township, where he was variously employed, principally at farming, until he married in Brown township, October 10, 1857, and his wife's father started the young



MR. AND MRS. JAMES R. DUNCAN

couple on their united career with a gift of 160 acres of farming land. They moved to Spring Creek township in 1870 and from then forward he added to his holdings from time to time, through good management and wise investment, until today he is the owner of 1,100 acres of valuable land, making him one of the wealthy men of his township. Mr. Duncan has always been a contributor to worthy causes, civic, religious and educational, and his citizenship has been of a high order, while his integrity in business matters has never been questioned. In the evening of his career, he can look back over a well-spent life, secure and content in the knowledge of the respect and esteem of his fellow-men. He is a devout member of the Methodist church. Mrs. Duncan, who died in 1901, prior to her marriage, was Miss Margaret Garbry, daughter of Joseph Garbry. Mr. Duncan is a member of the Piqua Club.

William N. Foster. During the seven years that have passed since William N. Foster became proprietor of the Piqua Tea Company's store, he has built up a large and profitable patronage and placed himself in a position among the independent business men of his city. He was born at Piqua, July 30, 1871, a son of William Osborn and Minerva (Reeder) Foster, and a nephew of William N. Foster, who fought as a Union soldier during the war between the States and rose to the rank of colonel, later being elected judge of the probate court at Troy, Ohio. Mr. Foster has one sister, Jessie, who is the wife of Charles Berk, and has one son, William Foster Berk. William N. Foster attended the graded and high schools of Piqua, and after his graduation from the latter became a clerk in a retail grocery. He remained as a clerk for a number of years, thoroughly learning the business in all its branches. In 1913 the opportunity presented itself for him to embark in business on his own account and he was quick in accepting it. Buying the Piqua branch of the Lima Tea Company, he has since applied industry, good management and progressive methods with such success, that he now has one of the leading stores in its line in the city. He carried a complete and high-grade stock of teas and coffees and delicatessen products and his patrons include in their numbers some of the best people of the city. Mr. Foster owes his success entirely to himself, as he is essentially a self-made man in all particulars. He married Amelia C. Meyer, and to them there have been born two children: Marie Christine, who is deceased; and George Osborn, a student in engineering at the Ohio State University. Mr. and Mrs. Foster are consistent members of the Methodist church and during the war period did their share in assisting various war measures. Mr. Foster is interested to some extent in fraternal matters, and is a popular member of the local lodges of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Airhart M. Fry, who is accounted one of the leading business citizens of Piqua, prominently engaged in large contracting transactions, was born in Montgomery county, Ohio, January 8, 1860, a son of Henry and Theresia (Freshom) Fry. Henry Fry was a born mechanic and throughout his career followed the trade of cabinet

maker. He and his worthy wife were the parents of seven children: Charles H., Ferdinand, Airhart M., John, Henry; Mary, who became Mrs. John Brunner; and Emma, deceased. Airhart M. Fry received his education in the public schools of Darke county, to which locality his parents had removed when he was a small boy, and there he began his career as a farm hand. Later he was engaged in similar work by the month, in Preble county, his entire farming experience covering a period of three years. Learning the carpenter trade, he later came to Miami county and for a time resided in Newberry township, and likewise lived at Bloomer, where he followed his chosen vocation. In 1890 Mr. Fry came to Piqua, where he followed carpentry for a time and subsequently embarked in the contracting business, in which he has won marked success and prominence. Among the buildings which he has erected may be noted the following: the Lutheran Church, the Young Men's Christian Association building, Benkert's dry goods store, Orr-Flesh building, the buildings of the Atlas Underwear Company at Piqua, Ohio, and Richmond, Ind.; St. Boniface parochial school, Piqua; buildings of Miller Brothers Hardware Company, at Richmond, Ind.; Milford Center (Miami county) High School; the Lutheran church and high school at Marysville; the high and graded schools at Circleville, Ohio; a school at Troy; the residences of John P. Spiker, L. M. Flesh and Allen Rundle, at Piqua; the Morrison Orr country home; the Hartley residence at Piqua; buildings of the French Oil Machine Company, at Piqua; the residence of H. L. Johnson, of Troy; and the Bethel township school. Mr. Fry is a skilled and specialized workman in his line, a shrewd and reliable man of business, and a contractor who lived up strictly to the letter of his agreements and who takes a keen and justifiable pride in his handiwork. He is a valued and popular member of the Piqua Club and a trustee of the Young Men's Christian Association. His first wife, who died in 1898, bore the maiden name of Angeline Routson, and they were the parents of four children: Alvin V., who was in the United States Army during the World war; Margery E., Raymond C. and Nina E. Mr. Fry married for his second wife Miss Charlotta Hohendorf, and they are the parents of one child, Airhart M., Jr., Mr. Fry has contributed materially in the upbuilding of his city through the fulfillment of his contracts, and his service to his community has been enhanced further by a strict observance of all the rules of good citizenship.

John M. Fulkerson. A prosperous and growing commercial enterprise at Troy is found in the up-to-date and well-equipped pharmacy of John M. Fulkerson, who has been proprietor of this business for the past eighteen years. Mr. Fulkerson is a native of Shelby county, Ohio, born April 3, 1878, a son of George W. and Margaret J. (Mills) Fulkerson, whose children were: John M.; Walter, identified with the steel industry at Canton, Ohio; and William, a lieutenant in the United States Navy. The father of Mr. Fulkerson was a physician who practiced for many years in Shelby county and the youth was brought up amid surroundings that nat-

urally inclined him toward his present calling. After attending the local schools, he took up the study of pharmacy at Ohio Northern University, and after his graduation from that institution began to follow the drug business. In 1902 he came to Troy, where he established himself in business, and since that time has built up a large and satisfying patronage among the leading people of this community. He has a well-equipped establishment and carries a full line of drugs, medicines, toilet articles, cigars, candies, etc., and the manner in which he has directed his transactions has given him business standing and public confidence. Mr. Fulkerson is a member of the Masonic fraternity. He has always given his unquestioning support to movements of a worthy civic character, and during the period of the war was prompt in his response to requests for contributions to the various movements promoted for the success of American arms. Mr. Fulkerson married Maude L., daughter of William Killiam, of Piqua, and to this union there have been born two daughters: Margaret, who is her father's able assistant in the drug store; and Florine, born in 1909, who is attending the graded schools of Troy.

Leo M. Flesh. The history of the Miami Valley is a history of diversified attainments. From the primitive struggles of the early pioneers to the tense industrial and other activities of today it truly is an absorbing story. The great manufacturing life of this valley may be said to have commenced with the building of the Miami Canal, the first great outlet of commerce. The reader, in following the general history of this work, will see the gradual unfolding of the different elements, in each generation, which have builded, collectively, the great Miami Valley of today. It is very proper throughout these pages that we divert from time to time to the personal factors who have played a conspicuous part in the life of the Miami Valley. If it is proper to treasure the deeds of the earlier lights of our pioneer history; it should be eminently proper to chronicle the greater achievements of those of today. In this instance we refer to the well-known manufacturer of Piqua, Leo M. Flesh. Mr. Flesh is a native of Piqua, having been born at that city September 20, 1863, the eldest son of Henry and Caroline Flesh. A complete sketch of the career of Henry Flesh will be found elsewhere in this work. Leo M. Flesh received his elementary education in the schools of Piqua, supplemented by a course in business training at an eastern school. His father had established several business enterprises at Piqua, and Leo M. Flesh succeeded to the retail clothing business which had been founded by the elder man. Subsequently, realizing the greater possibilities, Leo M. Flesh embarked in manufacturing and was one of the founders of the flourishing Atlas Underwear Company, of this city, of which he is now president. This concern has in a great measure earned an enviable reputation for Piqua as the center of underwear manufacture in the United States. The Atlas Underwear Company maintains plants at Piqua and Urbana, Ohio, and Richmond, Ind., and a full account of this industry will be found in the industrial section of

this work. Aside from his manufacturing interests, Mr. Flesh has been active in the general business life of Piqua. In former years he was a member of the real estate firm of Flesh, Geyer & Davis, which concern platted the Favorite Addition to the city and numerous others. He aided in the establishment of beneficial public utilities as one of the builders of the local street railway and of the interurban running between Piqua and Troy, and in addition was the head of the independent telephone company of Piqua and held large telephone interests all over the country. Likewise he was one of the owners of the Piqua Electric Company prior to its merger with the Dayton Light and Power Company. Mr. Flesh is now president of the Citizens National Bank of Piqua, chairman of the board of directors of the Piqua Savings Bank, chairman of the board of directors of the Cron Kilns Company, a full account of which is found elsewhere in this history; and interested as a large stockholder in numerous other industrial enterprises. Mr. Flesh participates in all movements for the general welfare and advancement of the community and is keenly interested in the civic and social betterment of his home city. He is vice-president of the local Young Men's Christian Association, a member of the board of trustees of the Young Women's Christian Association and a life member of the board of trustees of Memorial Hospital of Piqua. His war work covered a wide field of activity. He was called to Washington, D. C., during the World war period, and placed on one of the purchasing boards of the United States Government, and in many avenues, both local and national, rendered valuable and valued service. He was later chosen as trustee of the Miami County War Chest and also served as county chairman for the Young Men's Christian Association. Fraternally, Mr. Flesh holds membership in the Masonic order, in which he has attained the Scottish Rite degree, and is a Shriner; while socially he belongs to all the leading clubs of Piqua, Dayton and Springfield, and holds membership in similar organizations at New York and elsewhere. Mr. Flesh is interested in agriculture and operates one of the finest farms in Miami county, adjoining Piqua; and, with Mrs. Flesh, owns the largest office building of Piqua, the Orr-Flesh building. The Flesh home here is a handsome edifice, probably the most palatial residence of the community. The art collection found in this mansion is noted as a rare and valuable one. It includes numerous masterpieces, selected both for their beauty and rare value, which serve to make it one of the finest collections of its kind in this section of the State. Mrs. Leo M. Flesh, prior to her marriage, was Miss Gertrude Smith, of Dayton, a daughter of the well-known George W. Smith, of that city. To Mr. and Mrs. Flesh there have been born three children: Alfred L., George A. and Gertrude. George A. Flesh attended the public school at Piqua, Phillips Exeter Academy and Hamilton College, and during the great World war enlisted in the United States Army as an infantryman, was in training at Camp Sherman, later being attached to the personal department, and, at the time the Armistice was signed,

was in active service in Texas. He is now identified with the factory of the Atlas Underwear Company at Piqua, where he is known as a thoroughly capable and reliable man of business. Alfred L. Flesh was educated in the public schools of Piqua, at Phillips Exeter Academy and at Williams College, following which he became identified with the Richmond (Ind.) plant of the Atlas Underwear Company. Until 1913 he remained there and then came to Piqua as vice-president of the Atlas Underwear Company. He is also a managing director of the Cron Kilns Company, in addition to which he is a director of the Citizens National Bank and of the Border City Building and Loan Association. He is a vestryman at St. James' Episcopal Church of Piqua, and, like his father and brother, is prominent in club life at Piqua, Dayton and Springfield. During the war, he enlisted in the United States Aviation Corps, and was assigned to Sother Field, Americus, Ga. He received his honorable discharge in December, 1918.

William H. Francis, who has been identified prominently with the lumber interests of the Miami valley for many years, has been a resident of Troy since 1889 and during this period has taken an active and important part in the civic, business and social activities of the city. The senior member of the big lumber concern of Francis & Montross was born on a farm in Madison township, Butler county, Ohio, a son of Jacob and Mariah (Young) Francis, a grandson of George H. Francis, a native of Pennsylvania, who fought as a lieutenant in the First Pennsylvania Regiment during the Revolutionary war, and a great-grandson of Jacob Francis. Jacob Francis, the father of William H., was born in Pennsylvania, and as a youth came to Butler county, Ohio, whence he enlisted for service in the American Army during the War of 1812. He passed the greater portion of his active career in agricultural pursuits and was a man of standing in his community, where he was greatly respected. Mr. Francis married Mariah, daughter of John and Rebecca (Britton) Young, the Youngs having come to Ohio from Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. To Mr. and Mrs. Francis there were born the following children: Lewis; Mariah; Joseph and Daniel, who served as Union soldiers during the Civil war; William; Rebecca; Elizabeth, who married George Hamilton; and Margaret, who married John Mount. A half-brother of William H. Francis, John Francis, also served in the Union Army during the war between the North and South. William H. Francis received his education in the country schools of Butler county and at the normal school at Lebanon, and, being disinclined to follow an agricultural career, adopted the vocation of teaching school. This he followed for five years, leaving that occupation when he recognized the opportunities presented in the lumber business. He entered this business at Arcanum, Ohio, in partnership with his brother, Daniel, as Francis Brothers, and when Daniel retired from the firm William H. Francis became identified with the Rosser interests, represented by W. F. Rosser. The Rossers and Mr. Francis now control five large lumber yards in the vicinity of

Arcanum. Mr. Francis came to Troy in 1889, and, independently of his other interests, purchased the lumber business of A. T. Jaques and William Peter, who had carried on this enterprise at Troy for a number of years. Recently F. C. Montross, a sketch of whose career will be found elsewhere in this work, became associated with Mr. Francis in the formation of the firm of Francis & Montross, which is now one of the biggest industries of its line at Troy and the vicinity. In addition to having been prominent in the business and social life of Troy, Mr. Francis has been active in civic affairs, having served on the board of education and as a member of the city council. He is a director in the Troy National Bank and has been a member of the board of stewards of the Methodist church for many years. He married Ellen, daughter of Anuel Gifford, of Preble county, Ohio. Mrs. Francis, who died in 1909, was active for many years in the religious life of Troy, and was greatly beloved by all who knew her. There were two children: Jesse B., who after a successful career as a practicing physician of Troy entered the medical corps of the United States Army and received a commission as first lieutenant; and Opal, who resides with her father.

J. M. Frost. Among the old and honored residents of Spring Creek township, one who is held in high esteem and respect because of his worthy and industrious career, his good citizenship at all times, and his service during the Civil war, is J. M. Frost, who, in spite of advanced years, continues to be actively engaged in farming. Mr. Frost was born on his present farm, December 24, 1844, a son of Ebenezer and Nancy (McReynolds) Frost. The Frost family is one of the oldest in Miami county, where it was founded in 1805 by the grandfather of J. M. Frost, William Frost, a native of Riddles Mill, near Raleigh, N. C. This sturdy and worthy pioneer made the journey overland and located in Spring Creek township, settling on the farm now occupied by his grandson, where he and his son both spent their lives in the pursuits of farming, Ebenezer Frost having been born on this property. Ebenezer and Nancy Frost were the parents of nine children, four of whom are still living: Armata C.; Alice L.; Sarah Elizabeth, the widow of S. L. Evans; and J. M. J. M. Frost acquired a public school education in the district schools of his day and grew up on the home farm, where he has always made his home. During the Civil war he enlisted in a volunteer infantry regiment, which was recruited in his neighborhood, and with which he established an excellent record for brave and faithful service. He is the last of the surviving veterans of the great struggle now living in Spring Creek township. At the present time Mr. Frost has a highly-cultivated farm of 104 acres, on which he has substantial buildings and excellent improvements. He has never married, he and his sisters living together in the old home, in the neighborhood of which they are held in high esteem as worthy, honorable people, well representative of the best agricultural element. During the war period Mr. Frost and his sisters were active workers in and liberal contributors



EBENEZER FROST



J. M. FROST



NANCY (McREYNOLDS) FROST

to all movements formulated to insure the success of American arms. Mr. Frost is a member of the Masonic Order, Warren Lodge No. 24, of Piqua, and the Piqua Chapter No. 31, Royal Arch Masons. He is also a member of the Alexander Mitchell Post of Piqua, Ohio. The sisters are members of the Presbyterian church.

H. T. Gabriel. In business circles of Troy, Ohio, the name of H. T. Gabriel is associated with commercial integrity and soundness and representative and public-spirited citizenship. Mr. Gabriel, who is the proprietor of a flourishing shoe business, was born at Piqua, Ohio, April 12, 1869, being a son of Milton and Marion (Garvey) Gabriel. Milton Gabriel served as a private in the Union Army during the war between the States, having enlisted with a contingent from Miami county. He and his wife were the parents of a family of five children. H. T. Gabriel was educated in the public schools of Troy, to which community he had been brought as a child, and upon the completion of his studies at once became interested in the shoe business. For a time he was variously employed as clerk and salesman, and then associated himself in business with M. E. Baird and later with George M. Clyde, the firm becoming known as The Gabriel Shoe Company, with Charles Rastron and E. G. Vogel as interested parties. This business has been built up to large proportions and Mr. Gabriel occupies a deservedly high place in the estimation of his associates in the business world. He is a member of the Troy and Rotary clubs and is fraternally affiliated with the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias, in which he has numerous friends. As a citizen he has always faithfully and fully discharged his duties, and during the period of the recent great war active in all the measures promulgated and assisted in filling the county war chest. Mrs. Gabriel, who was formerly Miss Nellie Clyde, daughter of W. J. Clyde, of Troy, was prominent in all the women's activities during the war.

Felix Gangloff. The list of representative farmers of Washington township includes the name of no more enterprising citizen than Felix Gangloff, who has passed his entire life in this community and is known well and favorably to the citizens here. He was born in Miami county November 20, 1861, a son of Nicholas and Mary (Clouse) Gangloff, natives of Germany. His father was about eighteen years of age when he immigrated to the United States and settled first in Perry county, Ohio, whence he came in 1853 to Miami county. Here he secured a small farm in Washington township, on which he made improvements and to which he subsequently added, and by the time of his death had accumulated a goodly property and was accounted one of the substantial men of his locality, as well as one of the most highly respected. He and his wife, to whom he was married in Miami county, and who had come to the United States in young womanhood, were the parents of seven children, of whom five are living. Felix Gangloff was educated in the rural district schools of Washington township, and his boyhood and youth were passed in much the same manner as other farmers' sons of his day and locality. He assisted his father

on the home place until the time that he attained his majority and then began to receive wages for his work. At the time of his father's demise he inherited a part of the home property, and at this time is operating the entire tract of 244 acres, of which he is the owner of 150 acres, the remainder belonging to his sister, Cleia, who makes her home with him. Mr. Gangloff is the owner of a property which compares favorably with others in the township, boasting of good buildings and modern improvements. He brings to his work enthusiasm, intelligence and industry and has so conducted his activities as to be known as one of Washington's reliable farmers, good citizens and honorable men of business. Mr. Gangloff married Miss Antour Trace, and they are the parents of one child, Mary Elizabeth. The family are members of St. Boniface Catholic Church at Piqua, Ohio.

Lewis C. Gessaman. Ever since its establishment in Miami county about the time of the War of 1812-14, the Gessaman family has contributed to the development of the agricultural resources of this region and has furnished to various communities men of ability and industry who have played a part in advancing the interests of civic affairs, religion and education. Representing the third generation of this family to till the soil of this county is Lewis C. Gessaman, a leading and substantial farmer of Bethel township, who was born in this township in 1856, a son of George and Malinda (Flook) Gessaman. The founder of the family in Miami county was John G. Gessaman, the grandfather of Lewis C., who migrated to this region during early pioneer days and took up a homestead in 1811 or 1812, at a time when wild game was still to be found in abundance and the Indians were still here in large numbers. His was the work of early clearing and development and when he passed away the labor was taken up by his son, George Gessaman, also a man of sturdy industry and reliable traits of character, who followed farming throughout his life. With this ancestry, it was but natural that Lewis C. Gessaman should be inclined toward agriculture. After he had attended the rural district schools of Bethel township he started assisting his father on the home place and his entire career has been connected with farming and stock raising in Bethel township. Of recent years, having accumulated a competence, he has turned over much of the heavy work to younger hands and shoulders, but still manifests a keen interest in affairs of the farm and superintends the operations thereon. Civic affairs also find him an interested spectator and co-operator, and during the recent World war, as captain of the Poplar Grove school district in soliciting funds for the Miami County War Chest, he bettered his quota of \$1,400 by the sum of \$800. He was likewise an active worker in behalf of the sale of Liberty Bonds. Mr. Gessaman's first wife was Mary, daughter of Amos Warner, of Miami county, and they had one son, Ernest L., a farmer on the home place, who married Bessie May Weaver and has one child, Helen May. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Gessaman married Luella, daughter of Silas Perry, of this county.

A. R. Garver, one of the leading and influential business citizens of Tippecanoe City, was born at New Carlisle, Ohio, in 1860, a son of B. C. and Ruth (Rohrer) Garver. After attending the public schools of his native place, he pursued a course at Wittenburg College, and then began traveling through the West in the interests of the United States Engine and Pump Company. At the end of four years he settled at Tippecanoe City, where he engaged for some years in the manufacture of furniture, and in 1910 organized the Garver Lumber Company, of which he is treasurer and manager, operating in this connection a sawmill at Cape Girardeau, Mo. Mr. Garver is also widely known in financial affairs, and is president of the Citizens National Bank of Tippecanoe City. At present he is chiefly engaged in a business way with the affairs of the Northern Manufacturing Company, of which concern he is president. Mr. Garver has long been identified with public matters, and has been one of Miami county's leading Republicans. In 1914 he was elected to the State senate on the ticket of his party and served capably in that body, and at present is a candidate for nomination for Congress in his district. A progressive and public-spirited citizen, he has the interests of his community at heart, and his demonstrated ability, large capacity for executive accomplishment and soundness of view upon questions of public importance have gained him the confidence and support of the people. As a fraternalist he is prominent in Masonry, being a member of the various Masonic bodies. Mr. Garver married Miss Ida Rohrer, of Tippecanoe City, and three children have been born to this union: Karl R., who is associated with his father in some of his farming and stock raising enterprises in Kansas; Ruth E., the wife of Benjamin Hayward, at El Paso, Tex.; and Jacob C., who was a student at the University of Pennsylvania when he enlisted in the Transportation Corps of the United States Army, trained at Fort Niagara, where he received his second lieutenant's commission, and subsequently saw active service in France. He is now connected with the Northern Manufacturing Company of Tippecanoe City.

Ben Eldridge Gibbs, secretary and treasurer of the American Fixture Company, and manager of the Troy branch of this concern, belongs to the younger generation of business men who have made such rapid strides in recent years toward the attainment of positions that were formerly held only by men many years their seniors. Mr. Gibbs was born March 16, 1887, at St. Paris, Ohio, a son of Henry Clay and Ammoretta (Brelsford) Gibbs, who were milliners by trade and conducted a modest business at St. Paris. There were three children in the family: Millie, who is deceased; Nellie, who married and resides at Columbus, Ohio, and Ben Eldridge. Ben Eldridge Gibbs was educated in the graded schools and the Steele High School, at Dayton, but left the latter when sixteen years of age to accept a position with the American Fixture Company, at Troy. Subsequently he went back to St. Paris, his birthplace, where he followed the trade of electrician for one year, and then journeyed to Los Angeles, where he specialized in the

manufacture of electrical fixtures and remained three years. Returning to Ohio in 1910, in company with Messrs. Stephens and Hobart, he established the American Fixture Company. After three years Mr. Hobart withdrew from the firm and a reorganization of the company was effected by which Mr. Stephens became president and took active charge of the Piqua branch of the business, while Mr. Gibbs became secretary and treasurer and assumed the management of the Troy branch. This company manufactures electrical fixtures, and also fills contracts in electrical work. The business enjoys an excellent reputation, a standing that is reflected in the personal position of Mr. Gibbs, who is accounted one of the stable and reliable business citizens of his community. He devotes himself almost exclusively to the duties of his business and has few outside interests, but holds membership in the Masons, in which he has numerous friends, and during the war period found the inclination and opportunity to assist in the various movements promulgated to assist the fighting forces of this country. Mr. Gibbs married Anna, daughter of William Ross, of Los Angeles, Calif.

John H. Fecker, superintendent of the Favorite Stove and Range Company, at Piqua, has devoted his entire career to this line of activity, and has been identified with his present concern for a period of thirty-three years. Mr. Fecker was born at Covington, Ky., a son of Henry and Minnie (Hilhorst) Fecker. His father, who was a stove plate moulder, brought his family to Piqua in 1887, and here he and his estimable wife rounded out their honorable lives. There were three children in the family: John H.; Will, who is foreman of the moulding department of the Favorite Stove and Range Company; and Henry, who is deceased. John H. Fecker acquired his education in the schools of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Lawrenceburg, Ind., and in his youth expressed a predilection for the vocation of a physician and surgeon. He accordingly placed himself under the preceptorship of Dr. Will Prince, of Piqua, with whom he studied for two years, but at the end of that time gave up the idea of a professional career and instead turned his attention to the manufacturing business. In 1887 he secured employment at the Favorite Stove Works as a drill boy, and continued to be variously employed until 1891 when he started upon his apprenticeship to learn the trade of stove plate moulding. After mastering this branch of the vocation, he followed it with the same concern until 1903, when he was promoted to assistant foundry foreman of the molding department. In 1906 he was made foreman of this department, and in 1907 was again advanced, being made general superintendent of this concern, the complete history of which will be found in the industrial section of this work. Mr. Fecker stands high in the esteem of his associates and superiors, and has the loyalty and friendship of the men in his charge. He has been prominent in various affairs at Piqua; was in the city council for two years, during which time one of his commendable and constructive acts was securing the ground for Fountain Park, one of the city's beautiful points in the park system, in the face of strong opposition.



JOHN H. FECKER

As a fraternalist, Mr. Fecker belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Improved Order of Red Men, the Loyal Order of Moose and the T. M. A., and also holds membership in the Iron Moulders' Union, Local 94; and the Piqua Chamber of Commerce. In all of these organizations he is the possessor of numerous friends. During the war period Mr. Fecker was active and liberal in his support of all measures calculated to contribute to the success of American arms.

Gillis Brothers. Founded in 1917, the garage business of Gillis Brothers has steadily grown and developed until it is now the leading establishment of its kind at Troy. Arthur and Alva Gillis, the progressive and energetic proprietors of this enterprise, were born in Warren county, Ohio, sons of W. M. and Jennie (Stracker) Gillis. Their father, who was a liveryman, conducted a livery stable and sales stables at the intersecting lines of Warren, Hamilton and Clermont counties, Ohio, for a number of years, but eventually moved to Troy, where he opened a livery barn and at the same time carried on operations of an agricultural character. Arthur and Alva Gillis received their educations in the public school, and as youths assisted their father in his livery business. With the rapidly-growing popularity of the automobile, the livery business began to decline, and the brothers, sensing the trend of affairs, decided to cast their fortunes with the new development in transportation. April 1, 1917, they threw open to the public their present garage, the largest at Troy, which possesses vast storage space, usually taxed to its capacity. They likewise conduct a repair department and handle accessories and have built up a business that is a credit to their ability and to the city. The brothers are sterling business men of proved integrity, and as citizens have fully discharged their responsibilities in normal times and times of war. Arthur Gillis married Ollie Bays and they have three children: Frances, Almeda and William. Mrs. Alva Gillis was formerly Miss Marie Guenther.

Thomas E. Ginn, a prosperous farmer of Spring Creek township and enterprising business man of Piqua, was born in this township in 1867, a son of James and Sarah (Graham) Ginn. His parents were lifelong farming people of Miami county, James Ginn being the owner of a substantial property in the neighborhood of Piqua, a community in which he was highly honored for the traits of industry, integrity and good citizenship. He and his wife were the parents of nine children: James, who died in 1855; Will, an Ohio farmer, whose son, John, is twenty-two years of age and a resident of near Tippecanoe City; Jennie, the widow of Joseph Hilbert, formerly of Sidney, with a son, Arthur, who has two children; Annie, the wife of Lyman Carpenter, of California, with two daughters; Tillie, the wife of George A. Roeser, who has a son, Harley, twenty-eight years of age; Sallie, the wife of Jacob Smith, of Versailles, Ohio, who has had three children, a daughter who died in infancy, and two sons who are engaged in farming; Robert, who died in 1879, leaving a widow, formerly Ella Simmons, and one

child, both of whom are deceased; Thomas E.; and Edward, who is engaged in farming in Missouri. Thomas E. Ginn received his education in the public schools of Spring Creek township, and grew upon the home farm. As a young man he engaged in farming on his own account and his success has been gained through individual merit. His property is well improved with good buildings and modern equipment and he is accounted one of the substantial and progressive men of his locality. Mr. Ginn has stock with L. R. Hager, in the Piqua Coal and Ice Company. He has always been a supporter of good civic movements and has contributed generously to worthy enterprises. In 1898 Mr. Ginn was united in marriage with Catherine, daughter of Christian Schultz, a farmer of Spring Creek township, now deceased, and they have three children: James, who graduated from the Piqua High School with the class of 1920, and is nineteen years of age; Mary, born in 1907, now attending high school at Piqua; and Dorothea, born in 1903, who is attending Piqua High School and expects to graduate in 1921.

S. C. Gnagey, cashier of the State Bank of West Milton and one of the enterprising and progressive citizens of that community, was born at Accident, Garrett county, Md., a son of J. E. and Susan (Buechley) Gnagey, his father being a general merchant. Mr. Gnagey attended the public schools of his home community and Juniata College, Huntingdon, Pa., after his graduation from which institution he was engaged in farming for some years. Coming to West Milton in 1905, in 1912 he became identified with the Citizens State Bank, and in 1916 was appointed cashier, a position which he has since retained. He bears an excellent reputation in financial circles, and the institution with which he is connected has benefited materially through his sound and conservative ability. During the World war period Mr. Gnagey was an active worker in behalf of war movements, and served on the committees of the loan drives, the Red Cross and the Young Men's Christian Association. He married Merle Deeter, of Covington, Ohio, and they have one child, Susan Ruth.

Forest F. Godfrey, who is carrying on extensive operations as an agriculturist in Washington township, was born in Champaign county, Ohio, a son of John and Sarah (Barbee) Godfrey. He was reared in a rural community and brought up as a farmer's son, his education being acquired in the country schools, but as a youth he went to Piqua, where he secured employment in the rolling mills, with which he was identified for a number of years. Later, he returned to the vocation of his youth, taking up his residence on the James Patterson farm in Miami county and subsequently coming to his present farm, the 102-acre property owned by Mrs. Mary Wyeth. In addition to renting this land, Mr. Godfrey is carrying on operations on twenty-five acres of land in the immediate vicinity in Washington township. He devotes his activities to general farming and also grows some live stock, and his operations are directed by intelligence, industry and a thorough knowledge of the possibilities of the farm. During the war period Mr. Godfrey did a

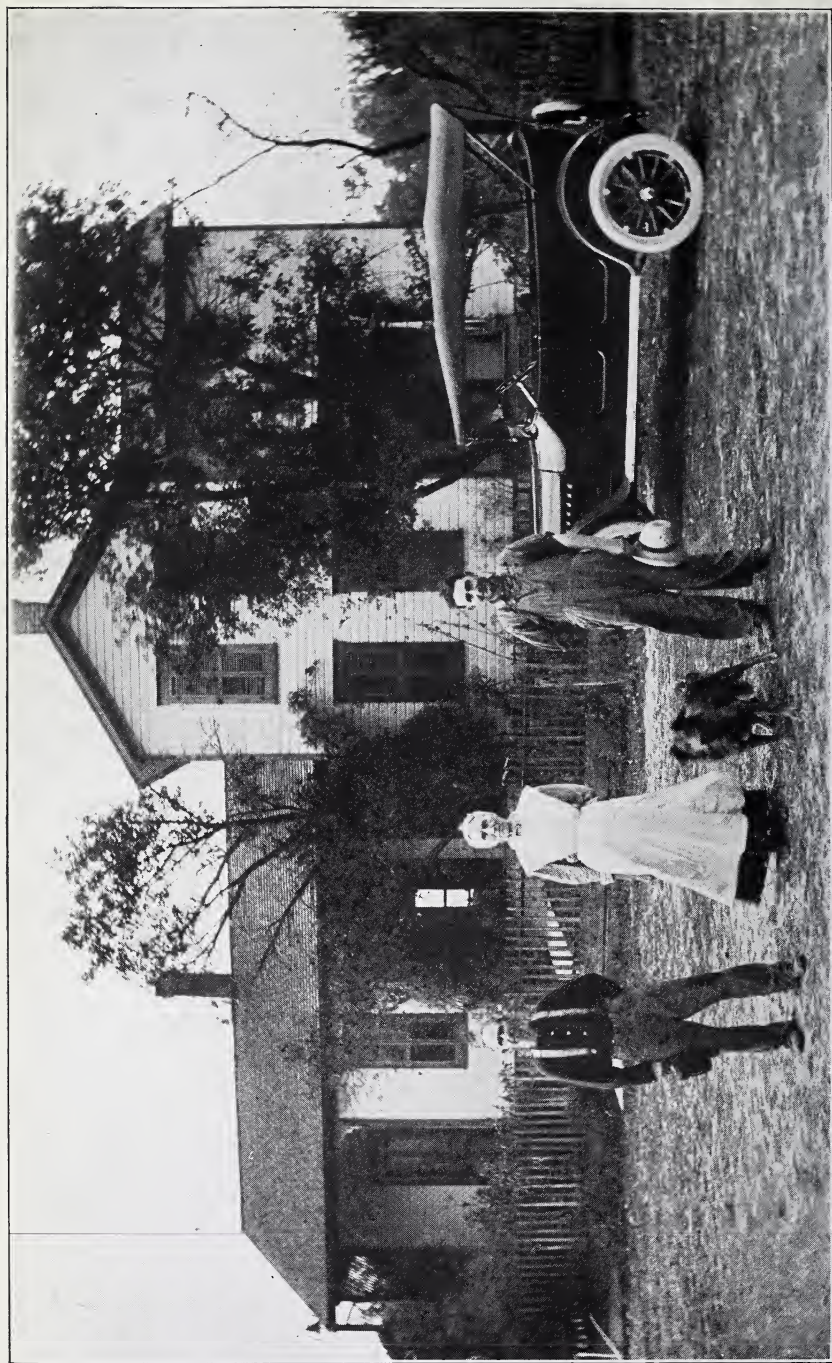
good citizen's duty in supporting the various loans and drives, and in civic affairs has always been accounted a public-spirited member of his community. He married Miss Anna Soliday, and they are the parents of one son, Franklin.

Charles A. Graef. One of the oldest landmarks in Miami county is the flour mill at Tippecanoe City located on the site of the old Herr mill. Of recent years this enterprise has been operated in a modern way by Messrs. Kessler and Graef, of which firm one of the members is Charles A. Graef, a progressive and energetic business man and esteemed citizen. Mr. Graef was born at Covington, Ohio, December 31, 1888, a son of Andrew and Nola (Shilling) Graef. His father, a teamster by vocation, was an honorable citizen, who was well thought of at Covington and Troy, where he pursued his occupation, and he and his wife were the parents of four children: Clifford, who is deceased; George, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Indiana; Catherine, who is the wife of Dan Young, of Troy; and Charles A. Charles A. Graef obtained his educational training in the public schools of Troy, to which city he had been taken as a small child, and on completing his studies secured employment in a grocery store, in which he worked for three years. Coming to Tippecanoe City in 1903, he embarked in the milling and elevator business in partnership with Mr. Kessler, and this association has continued to the present time. This mill, as before noted, is one of the oldest landmarks of Miami county, the present mill standing on the site of the old Herr mill. The property had been operated for twenty-two years by Mr. Ethell, from whom Messrs. Kessler and Graef leased it. They are doing a splendid business and have gained the confidence of the public and of the agriculturists of their locality. Mr. Graef is possessed of the qualities of energy, progressiveness and knowledge of his business so necessary to the success of a miller and elevator owner, and has impressed himself favorably upon those with whom he has been associated. He has taken an active part in local affairs, and during the recent war period, in addition to contributing liberally to the various war movements, Mr. Graef operated his mill on twenty-four-hour shifts, being on a 100 per cent. war basis in supplying flour to the Government. As a fraternalist, he holds membership in the local lodges of the Masons and the Junior Order of United American Mechanics. Mr. Graef married Miss Edith Layton, daughter of Mrs. Sarah McDonald, of Tippecanoe City, and to this union there have come two children: Victor, who was born in 1913; and Mary Margaret, born in 1916.

Oliver Gray. The connection of Oliver Gray with the agricultural interests of Miami county has been that of a progressive farmer of modern tendencies whose good citizenship has found expression in his support of worthy movements. During the long period that he has followed his vocation in Monroe township he has so directed his affairs and conducted his actions as to have gained and held the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens. Mr. Gray was born October 11, 1860, in Virginia and was a child

when brought by his parents to this county, the family settling in Monroe township. His father, Michael Gray, came of Revolutionary ancestry and had an honorable military record of his own as a soldier of the Confederacy during the war between the States. Following the war Michael Gray resumed farming operations, in which he continued to be engaged during the remainder of his life and was esteemed in the community in which he made his home. He married Elizabeth Michaels and they had seven children: six boys and one girl, among them being Oliver; Richard, who had a son Frank in the United States Army during the World war, seeing service in France; and J. A., who had two sons, Cary and Ed, both of whom saw overseas service during the period of that great struggle. Oliver Gray received his education in the public schools of Monroe township and passed his boyhood and youth on the home farm. When he reached years of maturity he embarked in agricultural ventures on his own account and has continued to follow the same line of endeavor to the present time with constantly increasing success. At this time he is the owner of eighty-two and one-half acres of valuable land, which he has brought to a high state of cultivation and on which he raises all the standard crops of the region, also having a good grade of cattle and other live stock. His improvements are modern and his buildings commodious, and all in all his property presents a prosperous and pleasing appearance. Mr. Gray has always performed well the responsibilities of citizenship and was a supporter of all war measures during the war period. He married, February 8, 1890, Ida May, daughter of Harrison and Susan (Cottrell) Coates, also a Miami county agriculturist, and to this union there were born two children: Willie, engaged in farming in Monroe township, who married Edith Macey and has two children, Willie, Jr., and Keith; and Willis, who died in October, 1919, on the home farm. Mr. Gray attends the Church of the Brethren.

John J. Filbrun, one of the prosperous and progressive agriculturists of Bethel township, was born on the farm on which he now resides, November 22, 1850, a son of John and Lydia (Heck) Filbrun, the former a native of Rockingham county, Virginia, and the latter of Clark county, Ohio. He came to Clark county and here married. He came to Miami county about 1840, and settled in Bethel township. Here he bought 160 acres of land, to which he later added 160 acres. He was a Democrat, and a member of the Dunkard church. He died June 10, 1896, his wife having preceded him, dying April 28, 1880. To their union have been born five children, of whom the subject of this sketch, and two sisters survive. Mr. Filbrun received a public school education and was reared on the home farm, where he has always resided and where his extensive operations have met with such gratifying results. He married November 20, 1873, Elizabeth J., daughter of Elias and Barbara (Deitrick) Brenner, and four children have been born to this union: Dora, who married Ray Mann, and resides in Bethel township. They are the parents of two children, Chester and Viola; Elias;



HOME OF JOHN J. FILBRUN



ELIAS AND BARBARA (DIETRICK) BENNER

Erma, who is the wife of Russell Boddeker, and they reside in Bethel township. They are the parents of three children, Gladys, Elwood and Clifford; and one daughter, Emma, who died September 28, 1892. Mrs. Ella Weinbrenner, a niece of Mr. Filbrun, had a brother and two sons, who served in the United States Army during the World war, and one of these sons met death in action in France. Charles Whistler, a nephew of Mr. Filbrun, was in the United States Army during the World war period. Mr. Filbrun has lived a very active and industrious life, and has always been regarded as an upright, public-spirited and useful member of society. He is a Democrat, and has been township trustee and a member of the school board. He attends the United Brethren church.

Gus C. Greulich. A name that has been known honorably in business circles of Troy since 1870 is that of Greulich, which has always been identified with the meat business. A worthy representative of this name and business is found in the person of Gus C. Greulich, who now conducts a market and slaughter house, and who has won an honorable success. Mr. Greulich was born in Miami county, Ohio, in 1882, a son of Frank and Emma (Weingartner) Greulich, the former of whom established himself in the meat business at Troy as early as 1870 and for many years conducted an establishment along straightforward lines. He and his worthy wife had nine children, of whom six are still living. Educated in the parochial schools of Troy, Gus C. Greulich began his career as assistant to his father, under whose instruction the youth was thoroughly trained in the trade of butchering. Later he became his father's business associate, but in 1911 embarked in business on his own account, and since that time has added to his retail market a slaughter house. Mr. Greulich carries on a profitable business, having as customers some of the leading families of Troy, and his honorable dealing and uniform courtesy have won him numerous friends. He has shown himself a public-spirited citizen and during the war period contributed generously to the various drives. Mr. Greulich is a popular member of the local lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, in which he has numerous friends. He married at Troy, Pearl, daughter of Webb McMaken, of Piqua, and they are the parents of one daughter, Helen Louise, born in 1913, who is attending the Troy parochial schools.

Joshua Grubb. Among the citizens of Newberry township who have wielded the implements of peace and the weapons of war, and who at all times have proven themselves worthy and loyal men, is Joshua Grubb, now living retired after many years spent in agricultural pursuits. Mr. Grubb has been a lifelong resident of this section, having been born in Newberry township, Miami county, October 23, 1844, a son of John and Catherine (Nolmer) Grubb. The parents of Mr. Grubb were early settlers of Miami county, belonging to the sturdy, reliable type of citizens who did so much to carry on the early work of clearing and development. They

lived worthy, useful lives, and passed away on their farm, full of years and with the respect and esteem of those among whom they had passed their careers. Joshua Grubb was reared in his native community, where he acquired an ordinary educational training in the public schools, and remained at home until he entered the Union service for participation in the war between the North and the South. During his service he was under Colonel Nelson, his principal engagement being at Port Stevens. He showed himself a brave and faithful soldier and established a good record. Returning to his home, he soon took up agricultural work on his own account and has continued to be engaged therein to the present time with constantly increasing success. At the present time, Mr. Grubb is the owner of a property consisting of 120 acres, all under a good state of cultivation, located in Newberry township. He has made all the improvements on this land, which are modern and valuable, and carries on his operations according to the most highly approved methods. Of late years he has lived a somewhat retired life, although he still supervises the operations being carried on on his land. Mr. Grubb has always been a good citizen, and during the recent war period generously supported all movements, local and national, which promised to aid in the success of the country in the great struggle. Mr. Grubb married Miss Frances E. Cable, and to this union there have been born three children, of whom two survive: Audrey, who married H. Shellenbarger; and Bertha, who married William H. Ganger. Mrs. Grubb passed away August 28, 1908.

Harry J. Guy, M. D. Since his arrival at Covington in 1918, Dr. Harry J. Guy has been engaged in a large and representative medical practice and added to the reputation which he established at Dayton as a skilled and thoroughly learned practitioner. He was born at Bellefontaine, January 8, 1871, a son of Charles and Elizabeth Guy, and a grandson of a pioneer of the Miami valley who met his death in a runaway accident. Charles Guy was born and reared on the plains of Madison county, Ohio, and at the outbreak of the Civil war enlisted in the Union Army, with which he served in an Ohio volunteer infantry regiment during the entire period of the struggle. Subsequently he became a building contractor, a business which he followed for many years at Bellefontaine, where his death occurred. He and his wife were the parents of three children: William, who is engaged in the wall paper business at Bellefontaine; Mary, the wife of Harry Hofstetter, of Indianapolis, Ind.; and Dr. Harry J. Guy. Harry J. Guy attended the primary and high schools at Bellefontaine and the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College at Chicago, Ill., from which he was graduated with the class of 1896, receiving the degree of Doctor of Medicine. At that time he returned to Bellefontaine, where he embarked in practice and in 1899 went to Dayton, which was the scene of his professional activities for a period of nineteen years. In 1918 he took up his residence and opened an office at Covington, where he has since built up a large and lucrative practice and become known as one of

the leading members of his profession here. During the war period he joined the volunteer medical corps, in addition to which he was a liberal contributor to war activities. He is a valued member of the Knights of Pythias and the Sons of Veterans, and in the latter has been a surgeon in the Ohio division for the past fifteen years. Doctor Guy married Sadie, daughter of Elijah and Sarah Brownell, Mr. Brownell having been the manufacturer of the first steam boiler in Ohio and the founder of the Brownell Engine and Boiler Works. Two children have been born to Doctor and Mrs. Guy: Margaret Elizabeth, who graduated from high school in 1916 with the highest honors of her class and is now attending Ohio State University; and Sherman, who died when about four years of age. Doctor Guy has a number of civic and professional connections, and he and his wife are very popular at Covington, where they have established numerous friendships.

A. L. Hagerty, D. D. S., a leading member of the Miami county dental profession, who is practicing at Tiptecanoe City, was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, in 1868, a son of David D. and Rebecca (Browneller) Hagerty. David Hagerty was a man of splendid mental attainments, who followed farming and was a well-known and capable educator, first in Pennsylvania and later in Hancock county, Ohio. In 1874 he took up his residence at Findlay, Ohio, and subsequently was sent by his fellow-citizens as their representative in the Ohio legislature, in which distinguished body he served constructively and to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. A. L. Hagerty received his early education in the public schools of Hancock county, following which he pursued a normal course and then studied civil engineering at Ada College. This profession did not appeal to him, however, and he eventually took a course at the Ohio Medical University, Columbus, now the Ohio State University, from which he was duly graduated with his degree, and at once entered practice at Tiptecanoe City. During his earlier years he had an experience in teaching, but with the growth of his professional duties he gave up educational work, and today is justly numbered among the leading representatives of his calling in the county. He is a valued member of the various societies of his calling, and has many friends among his fellow-members in all the Masonic bodies including both the York and Scottish Rites and is a member of the Shrine, the Triangle and other clubs. He likewise has a number of important business connections, and is a director in the Monroe Building and Loan Association of Tiptecanoe City. During the World war he supported the Government in all local war movements, and was one of the very first to subscribe for a substantial amount of Liberty Bonds of the first issue. Doctor Hagerty was united in marriage with Clifford, daughter of Samuel C. and Elizabeth (Updegraff) Hawver, of Bethel township, Miami county, well and favorably known farming people of this community. Doctor and Mrs. Hagerty move in the best social circles of Tiptecanoe City, where they are surrounded by numerous friends.

Frank Clifford Goodrich, prominent attorney, whose professional career began at Troy in 1900 and has continued to the present with ever-increasing success, was born in Noble county, Ohio, July 25, 1874, a son of P. J. and Lucy (Smoot) Goodrich. On the paternal side he comes of good old New England stock, while his maternal ancestors were residents of Pennsylvania. P. J. Goodrich, who is a realtor of Troy, is also prominent in public affairs, having been formerly deputy county clerk and at present director of public safety of Troy. Frank C. Goodrich was still a small child when brought by his parents to Troy, and here secured his early education in the graded and high schools. Subsequently he pursued a course at Wesleyan University, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1898, and was a member of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity. He then began the study of law in the office and under the preceptorship of Judge H. H. Williams. Admitted to the bar in 1900, he began practice at Troy and here has built up an enviable clientele, having been the representative of large and important interests in a number of important cases. He has been a life-long Republican. In 1902 Mr. Goodrich was elected city solicitor, a post which he filled efficiently until 1908, and in 1915 was elected prosecuting attorney of Miami county, an office in which he remained during that and the following year. During twenty years of honorable practice he has won and held the esteem of his fellow-practitioners as a member of his profession who observes its strictest ethics. Mr. Goodrich married Eva, daughter of Charles A. and Theda (Pinney) Elder, and to this union there have been born two children: Stanley Webb and Lucy. Mr. Goodrich is well-known in fraternal circles, having been grand master of Ohio of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in 1912-1913 and belonging to the Knights of Pythias, the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, the Improved Order of Red Men, the Knights of the Golden Eagle, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Woodmen of the World and the Modern Woodmen of America, and is a past officer in all these lodges. He is also identified with the Troy and Miami clubs. He is a member of the First Methodist Episcopal Church..

C. H. Hale, one of the prosperous and progressive business citizens of West Milton, where he is proprietor of the leading furniture and undertaking establishment, was born on a farm in Union township, Miami county, Ohio, September 9, 1865, a son of Isaac and Sarah (Kessler) Hale. The Hale family came from Maryland, where its members had been prominent in public life, and Thomas J. Hale, an uncle of C. H. Hale, fought as a Union soldier during the war between the States. His paternal grandmother came of sturdy old Pennsylvania Dutch stock. Isaac Hale passed his life as a timber dealer and was a man of good business abilities and the soundest integrity. There were three children in the family: C. H.; C. C., of Columbus, Ohio, who is buyer for a large Buffalo lumber firm; and Emma A., unmarried, who is a milliner in New York City. C. H. Hale attended the public schools of Miami county, fol-

lowing which he spent two years at Earlham College, the well-known Quaker institution at Richmond, Ind., and as a youth applied himself to learning the trade of wood-worker. For four years he was employed at the Dayton Car Works, as a carpenter and finisher, and in 1896 came to West Milton, where he succeeded L. E. Coppock in the firm of Townsley & Coppock, in partnership with F. M. Townsley. This association continued for sixteen years, at the end of which time Mr. Hale absorbed his partner's interests, Mr. Townsley subsequently being replaced by G. W. Whitme, of Pleasant Hill, who bought out Mr. Townsley. He remained in the business only one year before severing his connection, and Mr. Hale's son then entered the firm as a partner, but has since left, and Mr. Hale now conducts the business alone. He has an excellent patronage in both departments of his business, and his integrity, probity and soundness in business matters have served to place him high in the confidence of the general public and his business associates. Mr. Hale married for his first wife Alma, daughter of David Baker, of Miami county, and to this union there was born one son, Fred, who is engaged in farming in Miami county, near West Milton. Following the death of his first wife, Mr. Hale married Mabel, daughter of Joseph Haskett, of West Milton. Prior to her marriage she had been a teacher in the public schools and a teacher of music. She and her husband are members of the Methodist church, and for the past twenty-four years Mr. Hale has been superintendent of the Sunday school of that faith. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the local lodges of the Masons, Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias, in all of which he has numerous friends. During the war period Mr. Hale and his son were indefatigable workers in behalf of the various activities formulated for the success of American Army. He has likewise shown his public spirit in civic affairs and has served his community faithfully and capably in the offices of a member of the school board and a member of the board of city affairs for four years.

Michael R. Haley, M. D., physician and surgeon at Piqua and a valued member of the Miami county medical profession, was born at Wilmington, Ohio, May 25, 1885, a son of William and Mary (Denehy) Haley, his father being for many years a farmer in the vicinity of Wilmington. Michael R. Haley attended the public schools of his native community and St. Xavier's College, Cincinnati, following which he pursued a course at St. Louis (Mo.) University and was graduated in 1913. Subsequently he furthered his preparation by post-graduate work in hospitals and then engaged in practice at Piqua. May 25, 1917, he entered the United States Medical Corps and was assigned to Fort Benjamin Harrison, where he received his first lieutenant's commission, being then sent to Camp Taylor as a member of the medical examining board. Later he went to the Camp Sherman (Ill.) Field Hospital No. 335, and went overseas with the Eighty-fourth Division and was long engaged in field hospital work. Upon his return to the United States he resumed his practice at Piqua, where he now has a large

and important professional business. Doctor Haley is a member of the American Legion, of the Knights of Columbus and of St. Mary's Catholic Church. August 13, 1919, he married Cecelia, daughter of Henry Ratterman, a buggy manufacturer of Cincinnati.

William A. Haines, who is among the progressive members of the legal profession at Troy, was born on a farm southwest of this city, in Miami county, Ohio, a son of Theodore and Elizabeth Haines, the former a well-known agriculturist and a veteran of the war between the States, in which he fought as a soldier of the Union. William A. Haines received his education in the country schools of Galatin county, Illinois, and the Illinois State Normal School, and pursued his law studies in the office of Walter S. Thomas, of Troy. Admitted to the bar, he at once entered upon his professional career which has since been characterized by a steady rise to recognition and prominence among the legal lights of Miami county. Mr. Haines has served as city solicitor of Troy and has interested himself in progressive movements. During the war period he was active in supporting the activities of the administration at Washington. He married Miss Blanche Bausman, and they have three children: Mildred, Helen and William.

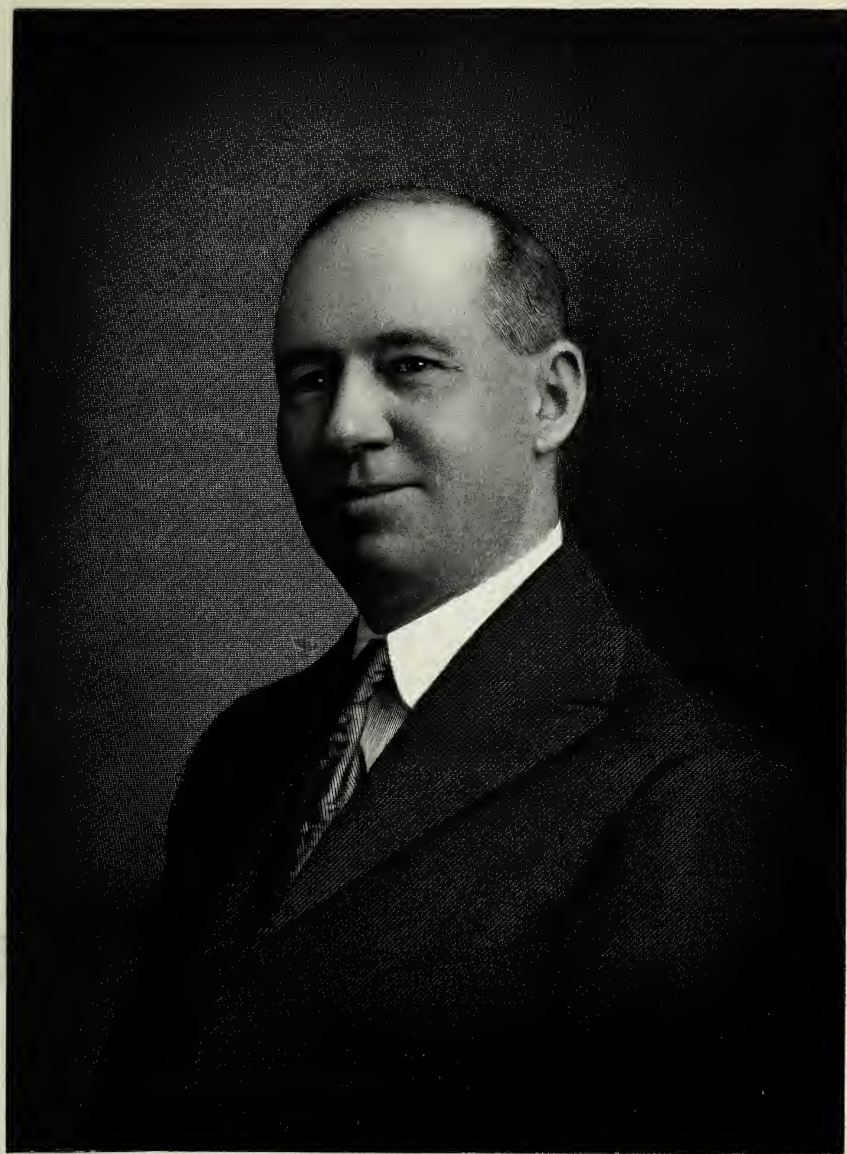
A. Acton Hall, president of the Ohio Marble Company, and one of the leading and prominent business citizens of Piqua, Ohio, was born in 1860, at Cincinnati, a son of Joseph Lloyd and Sarah (Jewell) Hall. Joseph L. Hall was born in the State of New Jersey and his wife in Pennsylvania. The father was an inventor of note having been the originator of the famous Hall safe, which for four generations has been manufactured at Cincinnati by the Hall Safe and Lock Company, and the distribution of which product covers the entire United States and invades the market of many foreign countries. Joseph Hall took out more than sixty-five patents on the safes and locks which bore his name, and in addition to having distinction as being the inventor of this utilitarian article was widely recognized as an authority on matters pertaining to mechanical science. Of the twelve children born to Joseph and Sarah Hall, six sons were at one time and another associated with their father in the conduct of the Hall Safe and Lock Company: Edward Clarke, Joseph Lloyd, W. H., C. O., A. Acton and W. P. Since the death of Edward Clarke Hall, in 1919, his sons have continued to operate the business, the other sons of Joseph Hall having previously disassociated themselves from the business. Edward K. Hall, the grandfather of A. Acton Hall, and father of Joseph Hall, was active in this same business until his death. A. Acton Hall received his educational training in the public schools in his native city, Cincinnati, and was still a youth when he entered his father's business and began to become familiar with its many departments. With this preparation as a foundation he later retired from the safe business in order to devote his time and attention to the handling of real estate, in which he had become actively interested, and this he followed for some years with a moderate degree of success. While thus engaged, his attention was halted by

the stone business, with which he became identified when he took charge of his present concern, the Ohio Marble Company, in 1896. Since then he has been the president of this company, which under his direction has prospered, grown and flourished and is now accounted one of Piqua's leading enterprises. Mr. Hall married Mary, daughter of Thomas and Mary (Hubbell) Foulds, of Cincinnati. Mr. Foulds was postmaster of Cincinnati under the administration of President Grant, was prominent in the grain and flour business, and became the originator and first manufacturer of the widely-advertised and universally used article known as Fould's macaroni. To Mr. and Mrs. Hall there has been born one son, Albert Acton, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Hall were active in all movements attendant upon the war period, including the war loans, Red Cross, etc. Mrs. Hall is prominent in the social and club life of Piqua, while Mr. Hall is active in business, civic and social circles. He is a member of the Piqua and Piqua Rotary clubs and of the Masons and Elks. His civic activities include a directorship on the Central Inland Waterways Commission for the rehabilitation of water traffic. A full account of the Ohio Marble Company will be found in the industrial section of this work.

Clayborne E. Harmon. Among the citizens of marked business capacity who have contributed to the civic welfare and betterment of Troy, is Clayborne E. Harmon, proprietor of a leading restaurant and ex-mayor of the city. Mr. Harmon was born February 17, 1884, near Lebanon, the county seat of Boone county, Indiana, a son of Andrew and Sarah (Stewart) Harmon, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of Boone county, Indiana. The parents came with their two children, Clayborne E. and Arthur, to Troy in 1891 and here spent the rest of their lives. Clayborne E. Harmon was educated in the public schools of Troy and when still a youth became attracted to the business of railroading. He worked his way up to position of fireman, which he held for several years, and then gave up the engine cab for business affairs, in 1910 establishing himself as a restaurateur at Troy. He has continued this business to the present time and is now the owner of a thoroughly modern establishment which boasts of a large patronage. Mr. Harmon has been prominent in civic matters for some years and for long was a member of the Democratic central committee. In November, 1915, he was elected mayor of Troy, a position to which he was re-elected in 1917. His four years in office were characterized by a business-like handling of municipal matters and by numerous advancements in the public service. During the war period there were few who were as active in patriotic movements as was Mayor Harmon. He acted as chairman of the Miami County Food Commission and as a director of the local Red Cross, in addition to being chairman of the Miami County Selective Service Board. February 28, 1905, he married Lena W., daughter of Walker M. and Susan J. Mitchell, of Christiansburg, Ohio, and to this union there have been born four children: Ernest, who is deceased; and Judson, Mary and Lucille. Mr. and Mrs. Harmon

are members of the Baptist church. He is widely and popularly known in fraternal circles, belonging to the Masons, Elks, Eagles, Woodmen of the World and Knights of Pythias.

George W. Hartzell. It has been said that the recent World war was the most epochal period of world's history. It is undoubtedly true that never before in the history of the world have men and women risen to such great heights of attainment and sacrifice as they did in the great conflict just closed. The impress on future generations remains to be seen, and for the benefit of future generations, the historians should include, without reservation, the story of the men and women who unselfishly dedicated their services to the many essential tasks at home, while our boys enforced our rights on the firing line abroad. When the colossal work of marshaling the industrial forces of this Nation became the paramount task of the hour, there was a spontaneous response from every industrial center of this country, if not from every industry of the country, great and small. The giant colossus of our industrial life moved into action, and this mighty force proclaimed to all the world that America's resources stood ready to serve the country's needs, first, last, and above all else. Whatever may be said in the final summary of our industrial contribution—and their part in the World war—it is undoubtedly true that practically every manufacturer called on stood ready and willing to sacrifice everything to the great cause. They approached their tasks in a self-sacrificial spirit, and to their everlasting credit, let it be said, that, despite sundry intimation many of our industrial plants throughout the country have not, at this time, been able to resume their normal channels of trade and many have had to practically begin all over again. In this instance, it is the province of this work to recount the part played by the great industrial leaders of the great Miami valley. Nowhere in the nation was there a more generous or more efficient co-ordination of all forces to the general welfare. In volume and in diversity, the Miami valley industries sent their products in a constant stream to the end of the conflict. Miami county achieved much distinction of the many counties of the Miami valley. The industries of Miami county—always noted in times of peace—became quickly converted to war production and contributed much to the sum total of the achievements of Miami valley. One of the notable industries which were early called upon was the Hartzell Manufacturing Company, of Piqua, Ohio. The complete war record of this concern will be found in the industrial section of this work and we will here divert to a short sketch of George W. Hartzell, the head of this concern. George W. Hartzell literally grew up in his business, his father before him having been widely known as a successful manufacturer of hard wood products. George W. Hartzell was born April 16, 1869, the son of John T. Hartzell, in Union City, Ind. The elder Hartzell had established a hardwood lumber concern at this place and had developed a thriving business. A fully equipped plant was maintained here, and their products were handled from the forests to the finished



Geo. W. Hartzell

products. The elder Hartzell was a master of his business and his thorough knowledge was imparted to the son in a most practical manner. At an early age George W. Hartzell quit school and became associated with his father. He served in every capacity—going into the forests controlled by his father—where he learned the business from its very beginning. He supplemented this knowledge with many trips to Europe and other places. He was entrusted with many important missions, his trips to Europe bringing him in contact with international factors in this business. The Hartzell Company numbered among their customers, many of the foremost manufacturers of Europe, and the younger Hartzell was entrusted with many important missions in the transaction of business with European clients. In the early eighties the concern was removed to Greenville, Ohio, and a short time subsequent to this, became known as the J. T. Hartzell & Son Company, the younger Hartzell becoming at that time a full fledged partner in the concern. About 1890 the elder Hartzell retired from active business life, and from that time on, the destiny of this concern was guided by the son, George W. Hartzell. In 1900 the plant was removed to Piqua, where it expanded to greater proportions and is today one of the leading industries of its kind in the country. When the call came for industrial mobilization and industrial specialists were being sought, it was natural to turn to George W. Hartzell on matters pertaining to wood. The instantaneous demand for walnut gun-stocks found a ready response from the Hartzell concern as well as other items of great moment, including the very difficult task of manufacturing finished aeroplane propellers, to which we again respectfully refer the reader to the industrial section of this work. Mr. Hartzell married Miss Deborah Norris, of Darke county, daughter of the Rev. Robert and Clarisa Norris. The Hartzell family resides in Oakwood, Dayton. To Mr. and Mrs. Hartzell have been born Ruth, now deceased; Robert and Rose. Robert is associated with his father in the business. Mr. Hartzell is a public spirited citizen, and is keenly alive to all measures for general welfare and advancement. He is a splendid optimist and a keen judge of men and events. His foreign travels have given him a broad vision of life, and he possesses a fund of general information and a knowledge of international life, possessed by but few.

L. E. Harvey, one of the leaders among the younger members of the Miami county bar, has been engaged in practice at Bradford since 1913. He was born at Savannah, Ohio, in 1883, a son of John and Martha (Shire) Harvey, farming people of that vicinity, who were well known and highly respected in their community. One of a family of two sons and two daughters, L. E. Harvey received his early education in the public schools of his native place, following which he attended Baldwin University and Wooster University summer school. He next pursued a law course at the Ohio State University, from which he was duly graduated and was admitted to practice in 1912. Like many who have met with success at the bar, Mr. Harvey was compelled to educate himself for the most part,

and in order that he might obtain the necessary preparatory training was obliged for a time to follow the vocation of school teaching. He was principal of the school at Savannah for a time, later became superintendent of the centralized schools of Ruggles township, Ashland county, for three years, and for one year was assistant principal of the high school at Ashland. He began his law practice at Columbus, but in February, 1913, came to Bradford, where he has since centered his activities, and at this time has a large, prominent and growing clientele, having represented many important interests. Mr. Harvey belongs to the various organizations of his profession, and his abilities are held in high esteem by his fellow-practitioners and by his clients. During the period of the World war, he acted as an associate member of the local draft board, and took part in the activities of the Red Cross, Young Men's Christian Association, etc., also being chairman of the local war stamp campaign. Mr. Harvey married Edna, daughter of Abdel Dunham, of Bradford.

G. B. Hatfield, senior member of the sheet metal and plumbing firm of Hatfield & Scott, is one of the substantial business men of Troy, where he has been identified with commercial ventures of a successful nature for forty-six years. He was born at Troy, July 16, 1857, a son of Elias and Sarah (Lathan) Hatfield, being one of a family of nine children. The education of Mr. Hatfield was confined to attendance at the public schools of Troy, and after he had laid aside his school books he secured his first business experience in connection with a hardware enterprise. April 6, 1874, he entered the McKnight & Hatfield establishment, where he learned the plumbing business, until 1892, when he and his brother formed a partnership. In 1903 he formed a new connection with John G. Scott, the firm of Hatfield & Scott coming into existence at that time. In 1913 the hardware department of the business was sold and since then the partners have devoted themselves exclusively to the sheet metal and plumbing business. At the present time the firm is greatly enlarging its quarters by the addition of a commodious show room and two upper stories of their building, which will make this establishment a leader of its kind in this section. Mr. Hatfield is a practical business man of sound judgment and acumen. He is a constructive worker in movements making for civic progress and betterment, and during the war period joined other patriotic and public-spirited citizens in making a success of the administration's movements. As a fraternalist, he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He belongs to the Methodist church.

Ora Hauenstine, proprietor of the Standard Tire Repair Company, is one of the younger business generation who has won his way to a satisfying share of prosperity solely through the medium of his own ability and good management. He was born at Troy, where his present business is located, in 1891, one of the two sons of Rudolph and Laura Belle (Harrod) Hauenstine, his brother,

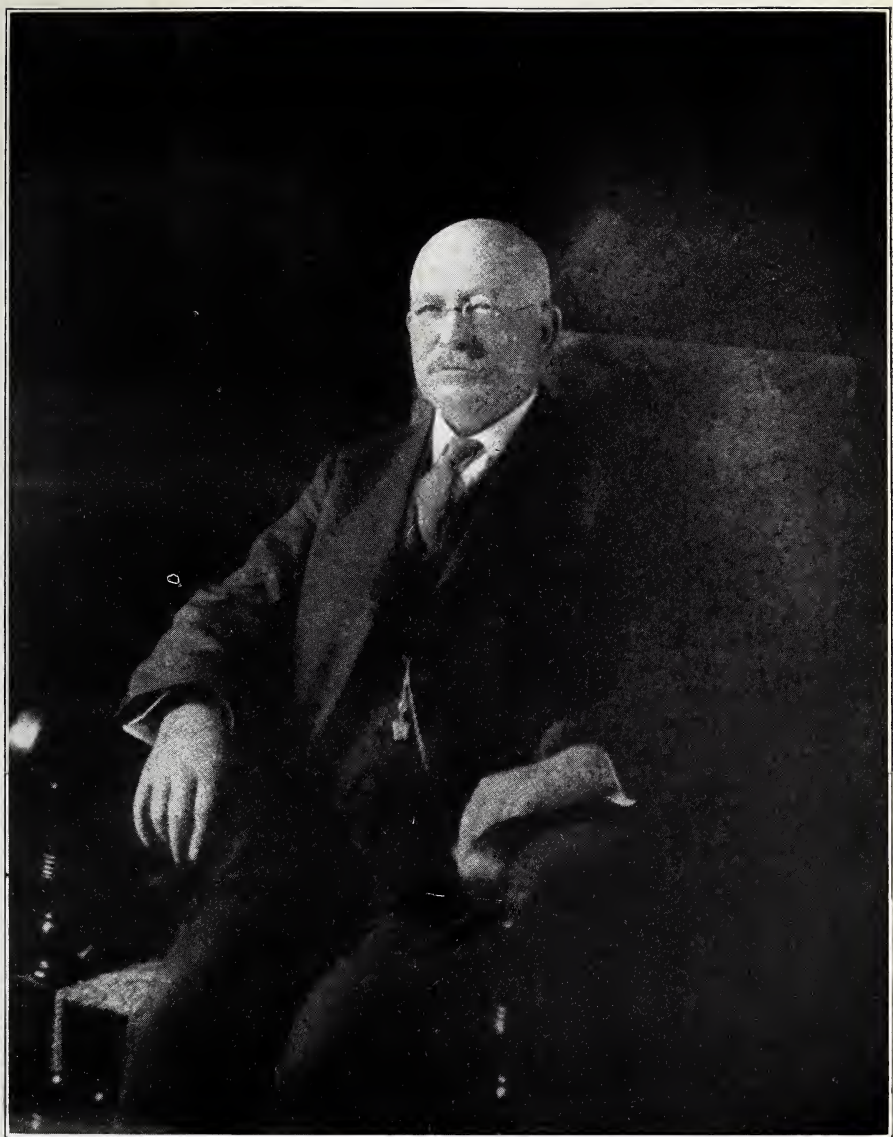
Will, being also a resident of this city. Ora Hauenstine was given the advantages of a public school education, after which he secured employment with the McKinnon-Dash Company, at Troy. Upon leaving their service, he went to Detroit and took a position with the Morgan & Wright Tire Company, and while employed there secured practical experience for the planning and successful promotion of his personal business affairs. Returning to Troy in 1915, he established himself as the proprietor of a tire repair store, where he does a general vulcanizing business, and where he has met with well-merited success. Mr. Hauenstine has found little time from his business to devote to other matters, but is a popular member of the local lodge of Elks. He married Myrtle, daughter of William and Minerva (Mosberger) Gilbert, of Hesperia, Mich., whose other children were: Fred, Charles, Larkin, Jacob, Ida and Emma.

Charles W. Herman, whose long and honorable connection with the agricultural interests of Miami county has made him a well-known and highly esteemed citizen of Elizabeth township, is a modern exponent of his calling, in which he has achieved success largely through the homely traits of industry and integrity. He is a native of this township, and was born May 7, 1879, a son of James and Maria (Mumford) Herman. His parents, farming people of Miami county, were residents of Elizabeth township for many years, and were held in high esteem by their neighbors because of their many excellencies of mind and heart. Charles W. Herman received his education in the public schools and was reared to agricultural pursuits, in which he engaged on his own account soon after attaining his majority. His property is one of the fertile and productive tracts of Elizabeth township, made so by Mr. Herman's intelligent treatment of the soil and his practical use of modern methods. His buildings are substantial and up-to-date and his reputation is that of a hard-working and reliable farmer and a citizen who stanchly supports all worthy movements. He is a member of the Masonic order, and also the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The family attends the Methodist church. Mr. Herman married February 24, 1904, Fern, daughter of Calvin and Mary (Urick) Stafford, of Miami county, and to this union there has been born one son, Eugene, who is attending school.

Alex Hemmert. An interesting instance of enterprise and progressiveness is found in the electrical establishment of Alex Hemmert, one of the energetic young business citizens of Piqua. He was born at Bodkins, Shelby county, Ohio, June 19, 1883, a son of John and Catherine (Stelzer) Hemmert, the former of whom was a tile manufacturer at Bodkins until the time of his death, after which his widow and children moved to Piqua. Alex Hemmert is one of a family of seven children: Fred, engaged in the plumbing business at Piqua; Alex¹; Urban, also a plumber of Piqua; Ida, the wife of John Gerstmeyer, of this city; Anna; Frieda, the wife of James Welch, of Akron; and Martha. Alex Hemmert was educated in the public schools of Bodkins, and for a time after completing his education had no settled occupation. Eventually he decided

upon the vocation of electrician and received his introduction to this line of work as an employe of the American Electric Company. In 1913 he embarked in business in partnership with his brothers Fred and Urban, the concern being known as Hemmert Brothers, and this association continued until March 29, 1919, when the partnership was mutually dissolved, Alex Hemmert taking over the electrical business, and Fred and Urban continuing in the plumbing business as Hemmert Brothers. At his up-to-date electrical establishment at No. 113 South Main street, Mr. Hemmert carries a large and attractive stock of electrical goods and fixtures of all kinds, his line of chandeliers in particular being one of the largest in this part of the state. He is a business man of progressive tendencies and one who has won public confidence and patronage through his good workmanship and capability. He belongs to the Loyal Order of Moose and the Knights of St. John, and he and Mrs. Hemmert are members of St. Boniface Catholic Church. They were active in various patriotic movements during the period of the great war. Mrs. Hemmert was formerly Miss Anna Reckers, being a daughter of Henry Reckers, of Piqua, and they have one child, Marion Frederick.

Henry Flesh. In the contemplation of such a character as was the late Henry Flesh realization comes as to the great loss sustained in his death. His was a life of signal usefulness and its influence was potent and beneficial. Fidelity to trust and conscientious discharge of every duty was part and parcel of his very nature. Highly gifted, he exercised his talents nobly. A natural leader, of high character, he possessed also that genuine kind of courtesy that is not the mere child of the tongue, but came from a warm nature that wished the world well. Mr. Flesh was born in the little town of Ellingen, Bavaria, June 29, 1837. At the age of fifteen years awakening ambition caused him to cross the seas to America. Almost immediately he came to Ohio, and after four years' residence at Dayton and two years' stay at Troy finally located at Piqua in 1858. Caroline Friedlich was born December 7, 1842, in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, a daughter of Moses and Emma (Abel) Friedlich. Shortly after her birth her father brought his family to Piqua, where he was engaged in business, was for many years actively identified with the growth of the city, and became one of its most substantial and influential citizens. His daughter, Caroline, in her sixteenth year, met Henry Flesh, and after a courtship of three years they were married, November 19, 1862, and for a span of fifty-seven years resided together at Piqua. This long period of activity in the maintenance of an ideal home and in the proper recognition of their obligations to the community at large, filled their lives with countless blessings. Mr. Flesh was inseparably connected with the growth and development of the town of his adoption. At first engaged in mercantile pursuits, he afterward, because of his peculiar equipment for the work, became identified with financial affairs. For more than a third of a century he was connected with the Citizens National Bank and



Henry Fesh

at the time of his demise was its honored president. He was actively identified with the Piqua Electric Company and it was largely through his progressive spirit that electric lighting was first installed at Piqua. He was president of the Cron-Kilns Company and the Border City Building & Loan Association, and a director of the Piqua Savings Bank and of the Piqua & Troy branch of the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Railway Company. He organized and was for several years president of the Citizens National Bank of Covington, Ohio. But with all his important business and financial activities, Mr. Flesh found time to serve his city and his state. He was at various times president of the Ohio Bankers Association, president of the Miami and Erie Canal Association and a member of the Ohio Centennial Commission. For more than a quarter of a century he was a member of the city council of Piqua, serving for many years as its president. At the time of his death he was a life trustee of the Piqua Memorial Hospital and treasurer of the board. Sound in judgment and keen in perception, his services in an advisory capacity, freely given, were invaluable not only to his business associates but to numberless others who for years looked to him for counsel and advice. As a fraternalist, he was a past master of Warren Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason. Loyal in his friendships, he had a wide acquaintance and enjoyed the sincere regard of his associates, whose companionship he cherished. Yet his social nature did not cause him to be other than a man who loved his home, and when he passed away, May 29, 1919, in his eighty-second year, his family lost a devoted husband, father and counselor.

Fred L. Adams. A prosperous and growing business venture of Piqua, and one that has been built up through good management and industry, is the sign works conducted by Fred L. Adams. Mr. Adams was born at Fletcher, Miami county, Ohio, in 1877, a son of John and Mary Jane (Morgan) Adams. John Adams was a blacksmith by trade and this was the occupation which he first followed when coming to Piqua. Later he was appointed a member of the police force here, and rose until he was chief of the department, later serving in the capacity of justice of the peace. He and his worthy wife were the parents of three children: Nellie, the wife of Charles Miller, of Ottawa; Emmet R., of Piqua; and Fred L. Fred L. Adams was educated in the public schools of Piqua, and when still a young man embarked in a retail business on his own account. This he followed for several years with some degree of success, but disposed of his interests and became manager of the Favorite Theater, subsequently taking over the management of the Strand Theater. As a young man he had learned sign painting, and when he severed his connection with theatrical matters established a small sign works of his own, into the work of building up which he threw his entire activities. At this time he has an excellent business, largely confined to doing the higher grade of work in this line. His patronage is not confined to Piqua, but

extends all over the surrounding territory and much of his business comes from Sidney and other points, where the excellence of his workmanship and his promptness in fulfilling contracts have made his name well and favorably known. While he still maintains an interest in matters of a theatrical character, it is only as an onlooker, for his holdings in that line ceased when he sold the Strand Theater, which he had founded, to the Piqua Amusement Company. Mr. Adams married Estella G., daughter of Henry and Caroline May, and they are the parents of one daughter, Lucile. Mr. Adams belongs to the local lodge of Masons, the Knights of Pythias and to the Rotary Club. He was prominent and active in all local war activities.

John W. Alexander, the proprietor of a merchant tailoring establishment at Piqua, is one of the progressive and enterprising young business men of this city. He was born at this place, June 1, 1875, a son of M. W. and Frances Elizabeth (Aspinwall) Alexander, of Piqua, whose other children were: E. E., who is engaged in the grocery business at Piqua; Walter W., and Mattie Belle, the wife of C. D. McCoy. John W. Alexander secured his educational training in the public schools of Piqua, after leaving which he entered the grocery business as a clerk, at the age of sixteen years. He continued in that line for four years, then turning his attention to the clothing business, with which he was identified the next two years, and in 1917 became proprietor of his present business. He has built up an excellent patronage at Piqua, where he is recognized as one thoroughly capable in his line and possessed of honorable business principles. Mr. Alexander married L. Kye Cox, of Piqua, and they have three children: Ralph W., who is identified with the Hobart Manufacturing Company, at Troy; Ida Isabel, who is attending school, and Hazel Louise. The family was prominent in movements assisting the winning of the great war. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander applied themselves to energetic work in the various big bond drives, and otherwise; Hazel Louise assisted in the way of selling war savings stamps; Ida Isabel was an untiring worker in knitting sweaters, etc., for the boys overseas; and Ralph was a member of the American Expeditionary Forces, serving for ten months in France and seeing active fighting in the last great victory drive as a member of the Third corps, Light Artillery. Mr. Alexander is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Yeomen of America and has numerous friends in fraternal and business circles.

Edward Harrison Allen, who has practiced his profession at Piqua actively and ably for a long period of years, is a native of Miami county, born at Conover, Ohio, June 15, 1874, a son of Andrew J. and Sarah Leonora (Brecount) Allen. After attending the public school at Conover, Mr. Allen pursued a course at the Ohio Wesleyan University where he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and later took post-graduate work at Harvard University. He received his degree in law at the Ohio State University and immediately began to practice here, having since built

up a large and lucrative professional business. Mr. Allen has been entrusted with the management of a variety of important cases. His practice has always been marked by earnest preparation, keen analysis of testimony and forcible promulgation of principles, evincing an extensive knowledge of legal principles and their wise and ready application. During the war period, Mr. Allen did publicity work of a valuable character in connection with the war loan drives and was captain of his precinct. He married Luella, daughter of Stockton and Elizabeth (McCann) Frazier, and a sister of Judge A. A. Frazier, of Muskingum county court. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Allen: Elizabeth Leonora, who is a student at Dennison University; Edward H. and Mary Rose. Mr. Allen is a member of the Masons and Knights of Pythias, is a director of the chamber of commerce, and holds membership in the Piqua Club. With Mrs. Allen, he belongs to the Presbyterian church. His business connections are numerous and important and include directorships in the Meteor Motor Company and the Metal & Wood Products Company.

Charles E. Barker. As one of the proprietors of the largest clothing establishments at Piqua, Charles E. Barker occupies an acknowledged position of prestige among the business men of Miami county. He is a native of Oswego, N. Y., born in 1866, a son of A. S. and Charlotte (Newman) Barker. His education was acquired in the public schools of Oswego, where he became identified with the old and reliable clothing firm of Klock & Tiffany, subsequently moving to Buffalo to take up his duties with J. N. Adams & Company. While there he was united in marriage with Miss Bertha Waltho. About 1910 Mr. Barker came to Piqua and bought the old and well-known business of Flesh & Louis, founding the present firm of C. E. Barker & Company, his partner in the ownership thereof being H. T. Vars. Mr. Barker has succeeded in making this the largest clothing establishment at Piqua. He is progressive and energetic in his methods and his stock is one of the largest and most modern to be found in the state, outside of the larger cities. His standing in business circles is an excellent one, and he has numerous commercial, financial and social connections. He is a leading Mason and an active Rotarian, and during the war period was generous in his support of all patriotic movements and measures.

William T. Busser, confectioner of Piqua, Ohio, was born October 31, 1863, a son of Wesley and Sarah (Gardner) Busser, of Urbana, Ohio. Wesley Busser was a cigar maker and two of his brothers saw service in the Civil war, one, who was called in the 100-day service, giving his life for the Union cause. Three children were born to Wesley Busser and his wife: Starling, Mary, and William T. Starling Busser is in the advertising business in New York City, and Mary and her mother live with William T., in Piqua. William T. Busser was educated in the public and high school of Urbana, and after completing the prescribed course of instruction he taught instrumental music for some time. He then

was employed by a broom factory, but he finally entered the confectioner's trade at Piqua where he has been for the past twenty-eight years. He manufactures his own candy, and such is the excellence of his wares that his business has become widespread and prosperous. Honorable methods combined with courtesy to his patrons have been the key-note to his success. Mr. Busser married Jennie, daughter of Squire Jones, of Urbana, Ohio, and to this union has been born one daughter, Celia, who is now the wife of Robert Howell, of Hamilton, Ohio. Fraternally Mr. Busser is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and is a thirty-second degree Mason, and is popular among his fellow members. He was a generous contributor to all government war loans, and did his full duty in various civilian war movements.

Warren R. Hudson. A man of versatile abilities, marked mechanical ingenuity, sound business ideas and fertility of commercial resource, Warren R. Hudson, president of the Melodia Company, of Troy, has been identified with a number of important industries, and while his career, as compared with those of some of the men mentioned in this work, has been comparatively short, it has been crowded with accomplishments of a high order. Mr. Hudson was born at Middlefield, N. Y., in 1876, a son of Charles and Eva (Chapman) Hudson. Educated in his native State, he specialized in technology, but at the same time supplemented this training by gaining knowledge concerning a great number of other subjects. As a young man he became identified with the General Electric Company, of Schenectady, N. Y., where he held a position in the engineering department until he resigned to go to the American Locomotive Works, at Providence, R. I., an industry with which he was associated for seven years. He subsequently became chief engineer of the Columbus Buggy Company, of Columbus, Ohio, and while there was appointed consulting engineer for the Ohio Board of Administration. In this latter capacity he installed the machine shop in the Ohio State penitentiary, where he designed and directed the building of the first truck built by convicts. All trucks now used by State institutions are manufactured at this institution, where Mr. Hudson shaped the manufacturing policy. In 1914 Mr. Hudson came to Troy as research engineer for the Troy Wagon Works Company, subsequently becoming factory manager and finally associate manager. While with this concern he became the patentee of devices used on the trailers made by this concern, including the draw-bar steering devices now used on Troy trailers. During the war period, the Troy Wagon Works Company secured a contract from the French Government for the manufacture of trailers. The brake that was used proved a complete failure in actual tests and was rejected by the representatives of the French Government. Mr. Hudson then put his ingenuity and inventive genius to work and soon perfected a brake that met with the complete approval of the French inspectors, meeting every test with splendid success, with the result that the contract was com-



MR. AND MRS. WARREN R. HUDSON

pleted satisfactorily and on time. It may be thus seen that Mr. Hudson, personally, was the main factor in the splendid record made by the company in its war contract work. January 1, 1920, Mr. Hudson purchased the Melodia Company, manufacturers of phonographs, which was established in 1914. Under his capable and energetic management the company is doing a thriving business and its product is meeting with an excellent market throughout the country. Mr. Hudson was also one of the incorporators and is a stockholder of the Lorimer Manufacturing Company, of Troy. He has a number of social and civic connections and is an Elk, a York Rite Mason and a noble of the Mystic Shrine. He married Alice Jenkins, of New York City, and they are the parents of one child, Frank W. Mr. Hudson is also a member of the Society of Automotive Engineers.

Angus Cameron Campbell. In bold, legible characters the late Angus Cameron Campbell inscribed his name upon the history of Miami county, and however much ill fortune may have swept away mere financial results of his achievement, dramatized his character through his processes of labor and showed himself master of the opportunities of his life. Mr. Campbell was born in Miami county, Ohio, in 1842, a son of John and Jane (Fairweather) Campbell, natives of Scotland, the former a son of Robert Campbell. The parents, on coming to the United States, settled at Piqua, and Angus C. Campbell received his education in the public schools of Miami county. He was still attending school when, at the age of eighteen years, he enlisted for service in the Union Army during the war between the states, and fought bravely with an Ohio Volunteer Infantry regiment until wounded at the battle of Chickamauga, which disabled him for further military service. Following the war, he was variously engaged for a time and then established himself in the dry goods business at Piqua, an enterprise with which he continued to be identified during the remainder of his active life. His death, occurring June 16, 1906, removed from his community a man who had the respect and confidence of all with whom he had been associated during his journey through life. Mr. Campbell was married twice. His second wife was Sarah, daughter of Francis and Mary (Johnston) Jarvis, the former born at Downpatrick, County Down, Ireland. Mr. Jarvis was but eighteen years of age when he came to the United States and here engaged in the soap manufacturing and candle making business. He first had spent a short time in Canada, but finally came to the United States and settled in Miami county, where he became a prominent and influential citizen and was president of the Piqua National Bank for seventeen years. A man of splendid business and financial ability, he was one of his community's substantial men, and was highly respected for his traits of integrity, honesty and good citizenship. His death occurred when he was seventy-eight years of age. In Miami county he married Mary Jane, daughter of James and Sarah Johnston, natives of Ireland. To Mr. and Mrs.

Jarvis there were born six children: James J., deceased; Mary, deceased; Frank, deceased; Sarah, who is Mrs. Campbell; Elizabeth J., deceased, and William G. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell became the parents of one son, James Malcolm. He was educated at Piqua, and during the great World war entered the United States Army and trained at Camp Sherman. He was overseas six months and rose to the rank of first sergeant, Searchlight section, fifty-sixth United States Engineers. Mr. Campbell married Florence, daughter of J. M. Postlewaith, of Joliet, Ill., and they have one son, James Angus. Mrs. Campbell, who survives her husband and resides at Piqua, is a woman of many accomplishments. She is a devout member of St. James Episcopal Church, and during the war period was actively engaged in Red Cross work and in assisting various other war-time measures.

F. E. Campbell, president of the Campbell Furniture Company, and a man widely and favorably known in business circles of Piqua Ohio, was born in Shelby county, this state, in 1859, a son of Robert B. and Sarah Jane (Millinger) Campbell. His maternal grandfather, William Mellinger, familiarly known as "Squire" Mellinger, was an early pioneer and Indian trader of Shelby county. The education of F. E. Campbell was secured in the public schools of Piqua, after leaving which, he learned the business of making furniture, a vocation which he learned in all its branches from the ground principles upward. As an independent operator he engaged in business as a retail merchant in 1888, at Piqua, and, being successful in this venture, developed a splendid business in his community, his store being gradually enlarged from time to time until he had one of the handsomest and most spacious establishments in this region. Not being satisfied with the limitation of his field, he extended his business outside the boundaries of Piqua, and at this time controls a chain of furniture stores which include one at Troy, Greenville and Sidney, Ohio. His merchandise, which includes all manner of house furnishings, carpets, rugs and high-grade furniture, is of a superior quality, and public confidence has been gained by a strict adherence to principles of integrity and fair dealing. Mr. Campbell married Lida Gearhart, and to this union there was born one son, Clinton A. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Campbell married Miss Mary Kerns. In addition to his furniture business, Mr. Campbell has had other important business connections. Becoming interested in the Imperial Underwear Company, he developed into a leading factor in the success of this firm and was elected vice-president thereof. It has become one of Piqua's leading enterprises, owing its own building and finding a ready market for its output working at full capacity. C. A. Campbell is now (1920) president of this concern, an account of which will be found in the industrial section of this work. Thus it will be noted that Clinton Campbell has also been identified with the success of this enterprise and his association with it has not only aided in its development but in his own. He has had a thorough business training and is ac-

counted one of the energetic younger business men of Piqua. He married Carrie Palding, of Piqua, and they are the parents of four children: Virginia R., Mary A., Robert P., and Philip A. The Campbells are prominent socially and have taken a leading part in all worthy movements, particularly those which pertained to war activities. F. E. Campbell has taken the Scottish and York Rite degrees in Masonry, and also the Shrine, while Clinton A. has taken the Master Mason degree. They are members of the Presbyterian church.

W. H. Chronerberry. During the past thirty years, W. H. Chronerberry has been the proprietor of a thriving clothing business at Piqua, which has grown from small proportions to an enterprise of marked pretensions under his capable management. Mr. Chronerberry was born in Miami county, Ohio, January 11, 1870, a son of John and Bridget (Maher) Chronerberry, natives of Ireland, and received his education at St. Mary's School, Piqua. He became identified with the clothing business about 1890, and from that time to the present has conducted a clothing and tailoring business at Piqua, where his patrons include some of the leading people of the city. His workmanship, general ability, promptness and courtesy have won him many friends, and in business circles his rating is that of a man of integrity and sound business principles. Mr. Chronerberry married Anna, daughter of Daniel and Bridget Murphy, and to this union there have been born: Joe who is associated with his father in business; Raymond, who is employed at the plant of the Favorite Stove & Range Company, Piqua; Richard, who is still attending school; Mary, who is employed at the factory of the Piqua Handle Company, and Margaret, who is attending school. Both Richard and Joe saw active service in the great World war. The latter was over seas for twenty months with the first division and took part in the heavy fighting around Chateau-Thierry, and the former was in France for eighteen months and also participated in engagements at the front.

J. Harry Clark, treasurer of the Third Loan & Savings Association, of Piqua, is a citizen who has found time from his numerous important business and financial connections to render valued service to his community, being at present president of the Piqua city council. He was born at Piqua, October 16, 1852, a son of Harvey and Mary J. (Kitchen) Clark, the latter a native of Piqua and the former of Westfield, N. J., from whence he came to Piqua about 1840 and engaged in the grocery business. Harvey Clark subsequently became a manufacturer of engines, threshing machinery and tile machinery, as a member of the firm of Rouzer, Evans & Clark. Likewise he was a stockholder of the Citizens Bank and a director of the Third National Bank, and was prominent in civic affairs, at one time serving as mayor. He and his wife were the parents of seven children. J. Harry Clark was educated in the schools of Piqua and engaged in business with his father, with whom he was identified for twenty years in the production of building stone, the firm style being H. Clark & Son.

When this business was sold, in 1889, J. Harry Clark entered the lumber business, with the Piqua Lumber Company, and later was with the Piqua Hosiery Company. When he disposed of his interests in the latter concern, Mr. Clark engaged in the real estate business, in Piqua, where he is now treasurer of the Third Savings & Loan Association. For more than ten years he was also connected with the Piqua National Bank, and has served as director of the old Third National Bank which was taken over by the Piqua National Bank. During 1918, he served as secretary of the Third Savings & Loan Company. During the war period he was an active member of the war chest committee. For a number of years he has served as president of the council, his other public service including efficient work as a tax commissioner, to which executive office of Miami county he was appointed by Governor Willis. He was for a number of years, a director of the Young Men's Christian Association and a trustee of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church. As a fraternalist he belongs to the Masons and the Junior Order of United Mechanics.

Judge Nate Iddings. The historic spirit, faithful to the record, the discerning judgment, unmoved by prejudice, and uncolored by undue enthusiasm, are as essential in giving the life of the individual person as in writing the history of a nation. Each one of us is "the heir of all the ages, in the foremost files of time." We build upon the solid foundation laid by the strenuous efforts of the fathers who have gone before us. Nothing is more fitting, and, indeed, more important, than that we should familiarize ourselves with their work and personality; for it is they who have lifted us up to the lofty positions from which we are working out our own separate careers. "Lest we forget," it is important that we gather up the fleeting memories of the past and give them permanent record in well-chosen biography. The State of Ohio has been the scene of events of vast importance, and the home of some of the most illustrious men of the nation. Her sons have shed luster upon her name in every profession and calling, and especially is this true of the members of the bench and bar. Wherever they have dispersed they have been a power for ideal citizenship and good government. Their achievements constitute an inheritance, upon which the present generation has entered and the advantages secured from so very great a bequest depends largely upon the fidelity with which is conducted the study of the lives of those who have transmitted so precious a legacy. Typical of these men who collectively have written this magnificent record for their State and incidentally inscribed their own names on the pages of fame is that dean of the Miami county bar, Judge Nate Iddings. The judicial labors of Judge Iddings have not only won for him the fullest recognition by the bar and public, but for forty-five years his reputation as a court reporter has extended far beyond the confines of his own state, in fact it may be said that he was the first to learn and make practical use of short-hand, in the State of Ohio. Judge Iddings was born at Pleasant Hill, in Miami county, Ohio,



Nate Idmings

on the 17th day of March, 1841, on a tract of land with a trail leading through it that lead to Dayton, in a log house that his father built. Game and song birds abounded in the woods and wolves prowled around the house at night. He attended the country schools and later the Quaker College, from which he graduated with the class of 1856, he being the only survivor of that class at present. At the age of sixteen he entered upon life's duties as a school teacher at which he made a signal success, by reason of the fact that he banished flogging from the school. He then attended the school at College Hill and from there went into Henry Snow's office at Cincinnati as a student, and from there to the office of Alexander Long, who was a member of Congress at that time. On the twenty-first day of April, 1862, he attended the supreme court at the examination of the law class, and passed with the class and was admitted to the bar as an attorney at law, the examination being oral. While studying law at Cincinnati, Judge Iddings met Benjamin Pittman, who had located at Cincinnati to introduce short-hand to this country, a system which had been invented by his brother, Isaac Pittman, a young Englishman who came to America to introduce the Pittman system of short-hand writing. Mr. Pittman and Judge Iddings became fast friends, and Mr. Pittman induced Judge Iddings to take up short-hand and to adopt it as a profession, which he did and after several months' hard work, became very proficient, and was able to write 200 words a minute. His first experience as a court reporter was at the Mitchell murder trial at Troy, Ohio, with Judge Williams on the bench. The trial lasted two weeks and Mitchell was found guilty of murder in the first degree, and sentenced to be hanged. Later his attorneys made an effort to have the sentence commuted to life imprisonment. The governor sent for Judge Iddings to bring his notes to Columbus to him, which he did. There being no typewriters in use at that time, it was necessary for Judge Iddings to read the report of the entire trial from his short-hand manuscript, which took about one week. However, after hearing the evidence the governor refused to interfere and Mitchell was hanged. This was the first trial ever reported by short-hand in Miami county and one of the first in the Middle West. This lead him to adopt the vocation of court reporter which he followed during the next forty-five years in many of the states of the Middle West. Judge Iddings' first political speech to be reported was that of Senator Allen G. Thurman. He also annotated the speeches of such famous men as Stephen A. Douglas, Judge West, Major Blackburn, C. W. Anderson, Governor Foster, and he was reporter at the convention at Chicago that nominated William Jennings Bryan as the candidate for President on the Democratic ticket, and Judge Iddings reported his famous "Crown of Gold" speech. In 1884 he also reported the famous liquor speech of Governor Hoadly. In November, 1890, he reported the speech of Senator W. C. P. Breckenridge, of Kentucky, at a banquet given by the Thurman Club on the retirement of Senator Thurman from active life. He likewise reported other

speeches and toasts at the banquet, including that of President Cleveland. There were 1,044 guests at the tables, each of the guests paying \$10 a plate. Among the notable men present were many of State and National reputation. In 1895 at the International Association of Reporters held at Cincinnati he reached the top of the ladder in his profession by writing 250 words a minute, for a period of five minutes, this being the best record that had ever been made at that time. He also won first prize for neatness of manuscript. He was later chosen to report the proceedings of the annual conference at Dayton, of the German Reform Church. These later proceedings were compiled in a small book, of which 125,000 were sold at the conference at twenty-five cents each. In 1881 he reported the conference of the United Brethren church in Iowa. Many events and speeches which have been reported by Judge Iddings have been preserved as valuable records for future generations. Judge Iddings has been present and gave addresses at every convention of the National Association of Stenographers since its organization. Judge Iddings also reported the speeches of President Harding when he was campaigning for senator. In 1869 Mr. Iddings took up his residence in Bradford where in later years he devoted himself to the practice of law and the handling of his large realty interests, for success has come to him not only in his profession as a court reporter and as a lawyer but in his business dealings and real estate investments. For many years he has been attorney for the Pennsylvania railroad and has rendered signal service to Miami county in a number of ways, more especially in securing the railroad yards, division round house, Young Men's Christian Association railroad building and headquarters of this division of the Pennsylvania for Bradford. Not only has Judge Iddings prominent clients as an attorney, but he has a number of important business relations as well as a number of a civic character, and he is secretary of the Bradford Building and Loan Association. During the World war period he was a most liberal contributor to all war movements, and was associate member of the draft board for his locality. In 1886 at Covington, Ohio, Judge Iddings was made a Mason. Later he helped organize the lodge at Pleasant Hill and is a charter member of the Bradford, Ohio, lodge. In 1913 he erected the building now known as the Masonic Temple, in Bradford, Ohio, the rooms of this building being occupied by the lodge free of rent. Not only can it be said of Judge Iddings that he is the dean of court reporters of the state of Ohio, and dean of the bench and bar in Miami county, and a prominent pioneer citizen, but he is a descendant of an old pioneer family who trace their genealogy back to Joseph Iddings, who came to America in 1796. Judge Iddings is the son of Davis and Sarah (Hill) Iddings, the latter a daughter of the first white settler of Newton township, Miami county, and the former a lifelong pioneer farmer of this locality. In this family were four children: Dr. A. H., who is deceased; J. D., a veteran of the Civil war; Maria, the wife of John J. Jay, and Judge Nate. While Judge Iddings still retains his law

office in Bradford and continues his practice in Miami county he built one of the most beautiful homes in Dayton, Ohio, where he now resides. On the thirteenth day of May, 1868, at Covington, Ohio, Judge Iddings was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Patty, a daughter of Charles and Elizabeth (Hill) Patty, well known residents of Miami county, Ohio. To this union was born one son, Frank, who resides in Dayton, Ohio, and who married Miss Lillian Miles, of Pleasant Hill. They are the parents of two children: Mildred and Sarah Nancy. In conclusion we may add that by a force of unusual circumstances and the illness of Judge Wright, who was unable to occupy the bench, that Judge Iddings filled the position as judge of the court of common pleas of Miami county. But it has been as an attorney and a counselor that he has endeared himself to the hearts of the people. Many have been the cases which, through his good advice and counsel, have been settled out of court. He has always been frank and generous; his sympathies are quick and warm, and he possesses a lively sense of humor, and delights in its innocent and kindly exercise. His charities have been extensive and unostentatious, his affections deep and true. In the midst of all the many tasks with which his broad and willing shoulders have been burdened, Judge Iddings' feelings and affections have taken him to his home and the intercourse of his own family for rest and relaxation. Here he experiences more real happiness than he could extract out of any other form of occupation and every hour of which he has felt free to dispose to his own pleasure has thus been spent among those he loves best. Thus he is rounding out his life, and to his splendid record of public service, good citizenship and business success, he is adding the highest praise of a true and worthy manhood.

Comer & Dabus. One of the concerns of Piqua which has gained public recognition and patronage, as well as business confidence, is the meat and delicatessen business of Comer & Dabus, the firm consisting of Charles A. Comer and Charles W. Dabus. Charles A. Comer was born at New Lebanon, Montgomery county, Ohio, a son of Benjamin and Lou Amanda (Reigel) Comer. Educated in the public schools of his native place, as a youth he worked on farms in that neighborhood and also learned the trade of butcher, which he first followed at New Lebanon, and subsequently at Troy. Later, coming to Piqua, he became associated with Mr. Dabus and they opened their first store on Main street. In 1919 they came to their present place of business, at 409 North Wayne street, where they have an up-to-date store in every particular, with a large and complete stock of meats and delicatessen products. Mr. Comer married Bessie, daughter of John Deubner, of Miami county, and they are the parents of four children: Claude H., Maud J., Catherine and Robert. During the period of the great war, Mr. Comer was a generous and substantial supporter of all war-time measures and projects, and he has likewise done his share in contributing to the success of civic enterprises. He has an excellent reputation in business circles and numerous

friends in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Improved Order of Red Men and the Independent Order of Foresters, of which he is a member. Charles W. Dabus, junior member of the firm, was born near Fletcher, Ohio, in November, 1871, a son of John and Martha (Wagner) Dabus. His father, a blacksmith by trade, followed that vocation at Fletcher and later at Piqua, and was a man of industry and substantial worth of character. Charles W. Dabus acquired his education in the public schools of Piqua after leaving which he became a clerk in the store of D. Louis & Son, grocery, of Piqua, a concern with which he remained for some years. His first enterprise on his own account was that in partnership with Mr. Comer, and he has done much to contribute to the prosperity which has attended this venture. Like his partner he is possessed of business capacity and of the confidence of the public. He is a single man. As a public spirited and loyal citizen, his name has been found on the list of supporters of worthy and beneficial movements, both in times of war and peace. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

George F. Cron, auditor of the city of Piqua and one of that municipality's best known and highly esteemed citizens, was born on a farm near Piqua, Miami county, April 11, 1854, a son of Washington and Lovina (Wolf) Cron. The country schools of his native locality furnished Mr. Cron with his educational training and as a young man he applied himself to teaching school in Spring Creek township, where he remained for four terms. When he gave up the profession of educator he turned his attention to mercantile pursuits, and for a number of years was connected with various lines of endeavor. During this period he was interested in public affairs and became well known to the people, before whom he eventually appeared as candidate for the office of city auditor. Elected to this responsible post, he displayed such fitness for its duties that he has subsequently been re-elected several times, and is now entering upon his fifth term in that position. Mr. Cron married Margaret, daughter of the Rev. Andrew Jackson Johnson, a well-known Baptist preacher, and to this union there have been born the following children: Arthur B., Lyle C., Raymond J., Gale W., Edgar, Howard and Cora May. Of these children, Edgar served in the United States Army during the recent World war, being attached to the signal corps. Mr. Cron the elder was active in all war activities, having always been public-spirited and patriotic in his citizenship. It is a significant commentary upon the quality of his service that he should have been elected to the city auditorship at different times when Republicans, Democrats and Socialists, respectively, have elected their tickets.

J. C. Cron, the proprietor of a modern undertaking establishment at Piqua, has been identified with business matters here for many years during which he has always maintained a high reputation for integrity and honorable dealing. He was born at Piqua, a son of L. C. and Margaret (Ginn) Cron, and on the maternal side is related to one of the very earliest pioneer families of this

section of the county, while on the paternal side he is a grandson of the founder of the business that eventually became the L. C. & W. L. Cron Company, one of Piqua's largest furniture industries. L. C. Cron was for many years interested in the manufacture of furniture, as well as being identified with the retail end of the business as a merchant, and was a man of sound business principles and excellent reputation. He and his wife were the parents of three children: Ella, who married Henry May; Charles, of Columbus, and J. C. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Cron married Marcella Brown, and they became the parents of two children: Florence, who is the wife of Doctor Kunkle, of Piqua, and Clarence. L. C. Cron, who still survives, has been a prominent man in his community, and has been interested in local political affairs for many years, having at one time served as mayor of Huntersville, and also of Piqua for one term. J. C. Cron was educated in the public schools of Piqua after which he entered the furniture and undertaking business in partnership with F. E. Campbell. This continued for two years, at the end of which time Mr. Cron formed an association with his father under the style of J. C. Cron & Company, under which a retail furniture store was conducted for two years. Mr. Cron and his father later bought the W. L. Cron & Sons retail furniture store, and S. I. Zemer became a member of the company, but this partnership was eventually dissolved and J. C. Cron formed a partnership with W. Walker, under the firm style of Cron-Walker Company. In 1919 Mr. Walker, retired from the company, taking with him the furniture business, while Mr. Cron remained in the undertaking line. In August of the same year Mr. Cron removed to parlors at the northwest corner of Ash and Wayne streets, where he now has modern rooms, with the most up-to-date equipment. His patronage comes from the most representative people of the city, and he has established himself firmly in public confidence as a reliable business man, as well as one of infinite tact and sympathy. Mr. Cron married Stella, daughter of John Denman, and to them there have been born four children: Irene, who died at the age of six years; Kenneth, who is attending the Ohio State University, and John and Robert, who are attending the public schools. Mr. Cron took a prominent and generous part in all the local war activities during the period of the great struggle overseas. He is affiliated fraternally with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Loyal Order of Moose, the Knights of Pythias and the Knights of the Maccabees, and is also a member of the Piqua and Cosmopolitan clubs. With his family, he belongs to the United Presbyterian church.

Val Decker. For half a century, lacking but three years, Val Decker has been identified with the meat business at Piqua, for it was in 1873 that he first embarked in this line, at that time being a retail dealer. Having made a success in his initial experience in this field, he later embarked in packing and dealing in products as a wholesaler, and at this time has a large business conducted in a modern plant, where he kills and packs about 600 head

of livestock per week. His brand, "Our Pride," is favorably known throughout the Miami valley, having a large demand at Middletown, Springfield, Dayton, and other large centers. A more detailed account of this business will be found in the industrial section of this work. Mr. Decker was born in Baden, Germany, in April, 1847, and came to America in 1868. He first worked in a butcher shop in Troy, later moving to Union City, Ind. In 1872, he came to Piqua, where he engaged in the retail meat business until 1898, when he embarked in the packing business. Mr. Decker married Hannah Schaefer, and they have the following children: Louis, George H., Carl Jacob, deceased; Walter J., William, Mrs. Hannah Jenne, and Mrs. Callie Schwaible. Mr. Decker, who is assisted in business by his sons, is widely and favorably known as a business man of the highest integrity, and is a director of the Citizens Bank of Piqua. He has various civic and social connections, and during the war period, was an active worker in the various movements which contributed to the success of American arms.

Alvah W. DeWeese, a well-known member of the profession of law at Piqua, Ohio, was born March 13, 1873, at Piqua, a son of Henry G. and Lucy A. (Esty) DeWeese. The father was a farmer and conducted a stone quarry, being one of the substantial and highly esteemed citizens of his community. Alvah W. DeWeese attended the public, graded, and high schools of Troy, following which he was sent to the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor. Later he pursued his legal studies at the Cincinnati Law School, and in 1895 began to practice his profession at Troy, in partnership with Capt. Elihu Williams. Subsequently he formed an association with A. R. Byrkrett, and maintained two offices, one at Troy and one at Piqua. When he discontinued these associations, he retained his office at Piqua, where he carries on a general practice. He has risen to a high place in his profession and is accounted one of the thorough, competent and learned lawyers of the county, where he has been identified with a number of important cases. While a resident of Troy Mr. DeWeese acted as associate of the Buckeye, a noted sheet of its time, the prominence of which was greatly enhanced by his editorial work. In addition to being prominent in professional circles, Mr. DeWeese is one of the leading fraternalists of Piqua and past exalted ruler of the Elks, of which lodge he has also been secretary for five years. He is a well-known Odd Fellow and Mason, also, and has numerous friends in these orders throughout the country. His religious affiliation is with the Episcopal church. Mr. DeWeese married Grace, daughter of Frank and Dell (DeWeese) Doren, of Pekin, Ill. DeWeese Doren, a brother of Mrs. DeWeese, served with the United States Artillery during the great war, in France, and was wounded the night before the signing of the Armistice. Robert Doren, another brother, was likewise with the American Expeditionary Forces. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. DeWeese: Alvah, Jr., James, Robert and Richard. Alvah, Jr.,

early became interested in the matter of war saving stamps, of which he sold \$13,000 worth up to December 15, 1919, thereby winning a medal.

Lincoln M. Flowers, manager of the Piqua branch of the Singer Sewing Machine Company, who has also achieved distinction as a maker of fine violins, was born in Monroe county, Ohio, June 4, 1870, a son of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Thornberry) Flowers. William Moore, the paternal grandfather of the paternal grandmother of Mr. Flowers, was born in England, and after coming to America fought as a patriot soldier throughout the War of the Revolution. His son, also named William Moore, was a soldier of the War of 1812. Benjamin Flowers, a man of industry and progressiveness in his day, brought the first portable sawmill into Monroe county and operated a sawmill and planing mill there for a number of years. Elizabeth Thornberry came to Ohio from Pennsylvania, where her family was well known. There were four children in the family: Webster, Clinton, Lincoln M. and May. May married Lieutenant George Imson, United States Army, stationed at Porto Rico. Lincoln M. Flowers was educated in the public schools of Monroe county and early displayed an aptitude for wood carving, the rudiments of which he learned while mastering the trade of a practical wood worker. Going to New Castle, Pa., he there first became identified with the Singer Sewing Machine Company, which concern later made him manager of the branch at Beaver Falls, Pa. From there he went to Mansfield, where he managed the local office, later going to Chillicothe in the same capacity. From the latter place he came to Piqua, in June, 1914, to assume the duties of manager of the Piqua branch of this company, in which capacity he has continued to the present time, winning success for his concern and establishing a personal reputation for business soundness and integrity. During the war period, Mr. Flowers took an energetic part in assisting the movements promulgated by the administration at Washington, and furnished gratis sewing machines for the use of the Red Cross workers. Of recent years Mr. Flowers has achieved something more than local distinction as a maker of fine violins. His early training in wood working and wood carving gave him the requisite skill to follow a line of endeavor that appealed to his inclinations, and in 1916 he made his first violin, this having been followed by seven others, all instruments of exceptional excellence. None of those sold has been disposed of for less than \$200 and all are models of splendid workmanship and wonderful tonal qualities. A number of connoisseurs of fine violins have pronounced his instruments as being of rare quality, comparing favorably with famous makes that sell for thousands of dollars. Mr. Flowers married Carrie A., daughter of William E. and Angie (Flannigan) Reynard, and to this union there have been born four children: Lester, who married Blanche Dillon; Eloda, a reporter on the staff of the Piqua Daily Call, and Clinton and Edward, who reside with their parents in the comfortable family home.

Adolphus B. Frame, M. D. The year 1918 was the golden anniversary of Dr. Adolphus B. Frame's entrance upon the practice of medicine. For fifty-two years he has been a member of the Ohio medical fraternity, and for thirty-three years of this time has had his home and office at Piqua. The venerable physician was born January 4, 1840, in Athens county, Ohio, a son of John and Mary (Nesmith) Frame, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Maine. In the family there were ten sons and one daughter. The boyhood and youth of Doctor Frame were passed in Athens county, where he was engaged in agricultural work until the outbreak of hostilities between the forces of the North and South. He became active in raising Company I, of the One Hundred and Sixteenth regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which entered the Union service in 1862, Doctor Frame at first being lieutenant and later advanced to the rank of captain. He saw three years of fighting and received his honorable discharge after having established an excellent record. As a lad he had attended the public schools and later Marietta College, and when he resumed the activities of civil life turned his attention to the study of medicine as a student of the Medical College of Ohio, at Cincinnati, where he was graduated with his degree, March 1, 1868. Beginning practice at Athens, he remained there for about twenty years, his advent at Piqua occurring in 1887. During the long period that he has followed his profession here, he has gained a splendid reputation as a physician and surgeon, establishing himself strongly in the confidence of the public and fairly earning the respect and esteem of his fellow-practitioners. Despite his advanced age, when the United States entered the great World war, Doctor Frame volunteered his services as a member of the volunteer medical service corps. He belongs to the various organizations of his profession, holds membership in the Masonic lodge and is a popular comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic. Doctor Frame married Miss Mary Elizabeth Morris, of Athens, Ohio, and they have one child, Mary Lydia, who is the wife of James D. Kennedy, of Detroit, Mich.

Alfred Willard French. One of the prominent business concerns of Piqua is that operating under the name of the French Oil Machine Company, the president of which, Alfred Willard French, occupies a leading position in business circles of the city. Mr. French was born in 1862, at Hartford, Conn., a son of Henry and Mary (Willard) French. After attending the public schools of Hartford, Mr. French took a course in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, specializing in civil engineering. He became instructor in that subject in that institution, and after resigning this position became associated with Edward A. Buss, of Boston, as mill engineer. Later, he engaged in work for the United States Government for three years, then becoming general superintendent of the National Linseed Oil Company, of Chicago. In Brooklyn, N. Y., he was identified with the National Lead Company for one year, following which he came to Piqua and founded the French



C. P. Sundberg

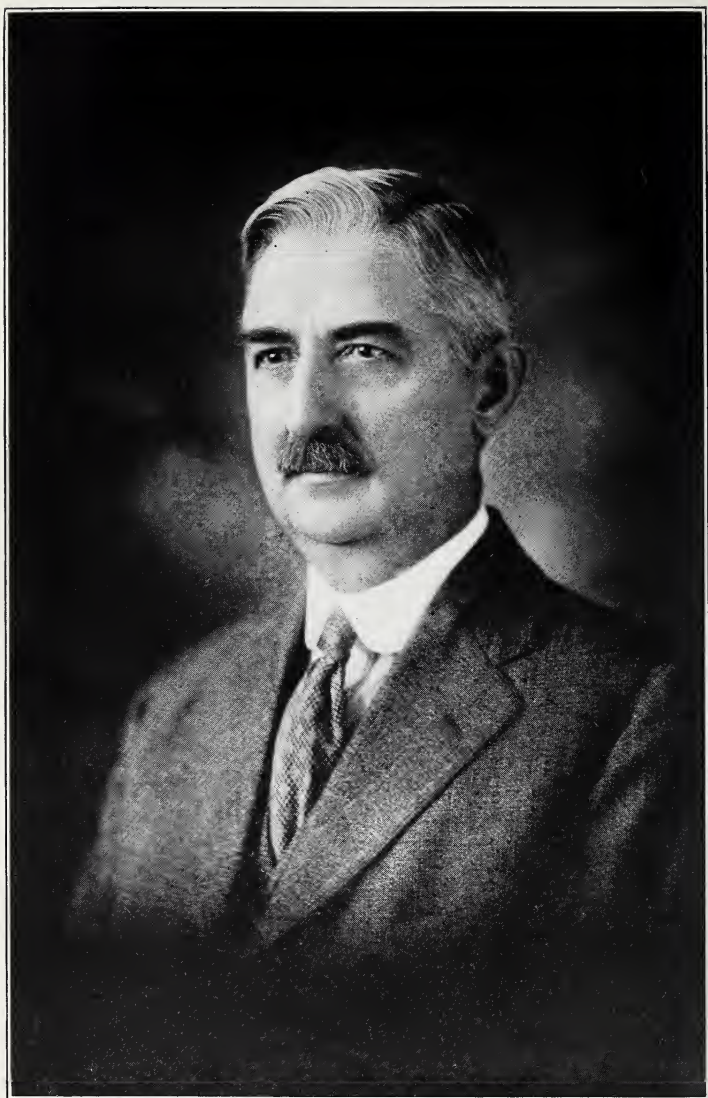
Oil Machine Company for the manufacture of oil machinery invented by him. At first the company occupied modest quarters, but its growth has been steady and consistent and today this concern is one of the largest of its kind in the country, its product being shipped all over the world and meeting with a steady demand in India, Japan, Java, the Philippines, Egypt, South America, France, Holland and other countries. A complete history of this concern will be found in the industrial section of this work. Mr. French married Mrs. Grace Albers, of Los Angeles, Calif., and to this union there have been born two children: Alfred Willard, Jr., who is attending Exeter College, New Hampshire, and Catharine M., a student at Wellesley College. Mr. French is a director of the Piqua Handle & Manufacturing Company and widely and favorably known in business circles as a man of sound ability and high principles. He is likewise a director of the Piqua National Bank. His religious connection is with St. James Episcopal Church, in which he is at present serving as vestryman.

J. Funderburg, M. D. With the exception of a short period spent in Shelby county, Dr. J. Funderburg has been engaged in the practice of medicine in Miami county for thirty-four years, at present being one of the leading physicians of Piqua. He was born in Greene county, Ohio, in 1862, a son of John and Keren (Rodefer) Funderburg, and a grandson of Jacob Funderburg. The Rodefer family came from Virginia, the maternal grandfather of Doctor Funderburg being Philip Rodefer. John Funderburg was born in Maryland and saw military service during the war between the states. By his first marriage he had five sons and two daughters, and two of his sons, George and Simon, served in the Civil-war. The only child of his second marriage was Dr. J. Funderburg. He received his early education at Yellow Springs, Ohio, and pursued his medical studies at Columbia Medical College, from which he was graduated March 4, 1886. He began practice at Fletcher, Ohio, later spent a short time at Houston, then returned to Fletcher and finally settled permanently at Piqua, where he has advanced to a leading place among the physicians of Miami county. He has served as coroner of the county and as examining surgeon for the board of pension examiners, and has the confidence of his patients and the general public, and the esteem of his fellow-practitioners. Dr. Funderburg married Ella, daughter of W. H. Doup, and they had two children: William Roscoe, and Cloyd Doup. The former is general manager of the Overland Sales Company, at Portsmouth, Ohio. Cloyd volunteered for service in the United States Army, shortly after the country's entrance into the great World war. He enlisted at Dayton, Ohio, and was at once sent to Ft. Thomas, Kentucky, where he remained about three weeks, and was then transferred to Camp Oglethorpe, Georgia, where he was made sergeant of his company, in the Three Hundred and Seventh United States ambulance company, of the Three Hundred and Second sanitary train. After about six months in this camp, he was transferred to Camp Upton, Long Island, New York. He

was the only one of his company selected while at Camp Upton to take training for lieutenantancy of infantry. He went overseas with the Three Hundred and Second as sergeant; and served as such in France from the middle of April, until July 11, 1918, at which time he was transferred to Company I, Thirty-ninth infantry, Fourth division, with the rank of second lieutenant. While leading his company in battle at the front, on August 4, 1918, he was wounded, and met death two days later, by a shell bursting near him. His death was the first one reported of the boys who went out from Piqua. After the death of his first wife, Doctor Funderburg married Lillie, daughter of William Tyson, of Fletcher.

William M. Freshour, an attorney of Piqua, who is prominently identified with business affairs as an official of the Piqua Paper Cap Company, was born at Covington, Ohio, June 2, 1878, a son of Hon. William and Emma (Shellenbarger) Freshour. His father, who was captain of a company of Ohio infantry during the Civil war, is one of the most distinguished attorneys of Miami county and has served as a member of the probate bench. Judge Freshour is highly esteemed in the community and is the father of Captain James Freshour, who commanded a company from Piqua during the late war and was later transferred to Company D, recruited at Urbana. His services were of a distinguished character and he today bears the scar of a wound received on the battlefield in Flanders. William M. Freshour attended the graded and high schools, after which he enrolled as a student at Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio, and was graduated therefrom in 1899. Subsequently he attended the Ohio State University, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1903, receiving the degrees of Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts and Bachelor of Laws. Following his graduation from university, he engaged in practice at Piqua, was for a time engaged in the real estate business at Los Angeles, Calif., and finally returned to Piqua, where he is now importantly engaged in business affairs, among his interests being large holdings in the Piqua Paper Cap Company, in which he holds a position on the official board. He is a capable, virile and progressive man and one who has done much to contribute to the prosperity and development of his concern. In 1904 Mr. Freshour married Evelyn Ann, daughter of John McKee, of Piqua, and to this union there have been born three children: Martha L., William McKee and Marion. Mr. Freshour is a popular member of the local lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. With his family, he belongs to the Presbyterian church.

L. W. Genslinger, outside state representative for the Magee Printing Company, of Piqua, Ohio, has had a somewhat varied career, including experiences in several kinds of enterprises. In his present capacity he is following the same line of business as that which appealed to his interest during his youth, and there are few better known figures in the printing trade in Ohio. Mr. Genslinger was born at Piqua, a son of Stephen and Caroline (McNeely) Genslinger, the father having been interested in the



Hugh Henry Gravett

grocery business for some years at Piqua. There were nine children in the family: Charles H., William, Addie, Harry, L. W., Nellie, Carrie, Stephen and Kittie. Of these children, Charles H. Genslinger is widely known because of his connection with athletic affairs. He was one of the organizers of the Illinois Athletic Club, of Chicago, and the Missouri Athletic Club, of St. Louis, Mo., and a reorganizer of the old Manhattan Club, of New York City, now the Knickerbocker Club. His acquaintance is extensive in baseball circles, and at one time he was president of the Southern League Baseball Association. L. W. Genslinger was educated at Piqua, and after his graduation from the high school engaged in the printing business. He went south as a salesman for the Hunter & Genslinger Company, of which firm his brother Charles was a member, and subsequently became owner of this concern by purchase, the name at that time being changed to Genslinger & Aikens. Mr. Genslinger continued to be identified with this business for two-and-one-half years, and during this period was married at New Orleans, to Miss Lula Peyton, who died in that city eleven months later, leaving a son, Lon S. Lon S. Genslinger is a graduate of Tulane University, of New Orleans and is a mechanical engineer. In January, 1914, he enlisted in the state infantry, and was appointed as professor of military tactics in the University of Washington, at Seattle, Wash. At the present time he is following the profession of mechanical engineer in the service of the United States Government. After leaving New Orleans, L. W. Genslinger went to New York City, where he joined his brother, Charles, in athletic club work. With him he went to Ottawa, Canada, where they engaged in the hotel business as proprietors of the Hotel Cecil, but later L. W. Genslinger disposed of his Canadian interests and holdings and came to Piqua, where he found congenial employment with Magee Brothers. He left this concern to become a traveling salesman for the Favorite Stove & Range Company, of Piqua, with which he continued to be identified for a period of thirteen years. When he left that company it was to return to the Magee Printing Company, of which he has since been outside representative for Ohio. Mr. Genslinger has a wide acquaintance and many friends in business circles of Ohio, and is considered an expert and an authority in his line. He is a member of the Piqua Lodge of Elks, and his religious affiliation is with St. James Episcopal Church, of this city.

Hugh Henry Gravett, D. O., is one of the most widely known members of his profession in Ohio, and the success which he has attained in his calling may be directly attributed to a conscientious adherence to principle coupled with a native ability that has preeminently fitted him for his life work and he has practiced in Ohio longer than any man of his profession. Having chosen a profession which requires unceasing study, Doctor Gravett has always been in the forefront among osteopathic practitioners, and by constant research and reading has kept abreast of the progress and developments perpetually being made in the science. Dr. Gravett is a

native of Illinois, having been born in White county, November 14, 1862, a son of William and Ellen (Johnson) Gravett, the former of whom was born and raised in England. He followed the lumber business throughout his active career, locating in Illinois where he reared his family. Nine children were born to him and his wife, of whom Dr. W. A. Gravett is a prominent practicing osteopath of Dayton, Ohio; J. P. Gravett lives in California, and three daughters are living in Illinois. Dr. Hugh H. Gravett received his preliminary education in Grayville, Ill., and subsequently went to Kirksville, Mo., for his professional training. Having been graduated from the American School of Osteopathy with the degree of Doctor of Osteopathy, Doctor Gravett came to Piqua in 1897 to commence the practice of his profession, and so favorably were the citizens of the community impressed with the young doctor's ability and earnestness of purpose, that soon his clientele was extensive, and during the years that have elapsed since that time, no one has ever had cause to regret the confidence he placed in the doctor's skill. Doctor Gravett married Annie May Harpster, a daughter of David Harpster, a druggist of Toledo, Ohio, who at the time of his death was the oldest druggist in Lucas county. To their union one son has been born, Warren Shoup Gravett, who is prominent among the younger business element of Piqua as assistant cashier of the Citizens National Bank. Doctor Gravett's religious beliefs incline him toward the tenets of the Church of Christ, of which he is a member. Politically he has never aspired to political office, having devoted his entire time to his profession, the various societies of which claim his ardent support. During the recent war Doctor Gravett did a good citizen's part in all civilian war work, and could always be counted upon to do his full share toward supporting the different government drives, such as war loans, Red Cross, war savings stamps, and kindred movements.

L. R. Hager, secretary and treasurer of the Piqua Ice Company of Piqua is a citizen of business worth and standing in his community whose success is self-acquired. He was born at Piqua, July 23, 1879, a son of George and Dora (Roeser) Hager. During the early days his father owned and operated a boat on the Miami canal, and later for a number of years was identified with an ice business in partnership with M. Jarvis. L. R. Hager was primarily educated in the public schools of Piqua, and after his graduation from Piqua High School pursued a course in civil engineering at the Ohio State University. For a time he was engaged in civil engineering in connection with railroad construction and repairing but finally turned his attention to the ice business and with Will Roeser and Thomas Guin founded the Piqua Ice Company, handling natural ice. In 1911 the Peckham Coal & Ice Company was purchased by the Piqua Ice Company, which thereby came into possession of a fully equipped plant for the making of ice, the capacity at this time being fifty-five tons per day. In addition this company controls a large coal business, and its industry has en-

joyed a steady and continuous growth. Mr. Hager is one of the substantial men of his community and has an excellent reputation in business circles for integrity and the fulfilment of contracts. He faithfully discharged the duties of citizenship and during the war period was active in his support of the activities of the administration. Mr. Hager married Sallie R., daughter of George and Charlotte Ingham, of Columbus, and to this union there have been born two children: Robert Ingham, and Marjorie Virginia.

James M. Hays. Prominent among the enterprising business men of the younger generation, one who has come rapidly to the forefront in recent years is James M. Hays, proprietor of a flourishing cigar business at Piqua. Mr. Hays was born at this place, July 3, 1895, a son of Joseph A. and H. Myrtle (Myers) Hays, and a grandson of James T. Hays, of Kentucky, who fought as a Union soldier during the war between the North and South. Joseph A. Hays was born at Newport, Ky., and as a youth learned the trade of stove moulding, a vocation to which he devoted the major portion of his life. When the Favorite Stove Company elected to locate its plant at Piqua, Mr. Hays came with the forces of that concern to this city, and here rounded out a useful and honorable career, his death occurring November 17, 1919. James M. Hays was educated in the public schools of Piqua and on leaving school engaged in the cigar business, first at Wood and Wayne streets, in 1908, and later in the Bijou Theater building. He moved to his present up-to-date store at the northeast corner of Wayne and Water streets, October 15, 1916, having one of the best-appointed stores of its kind to be found at Piqua and comparing favorably with the establishments of any of the larger cities. Mr. Hays is also local distributor of the Cincinnati Post, Columbus Citizen and the Dayton News and is a young business man of marked intelligence and vigor and one who has established a sound place for himself in the confidence and respect of the general public and his associates in business circles. He was active in all war movements of local character, and is fraternally affiliated with the Elks, Eagles and Theatrical Mechanics' Association. Mr. Hays married Nina, daughter of A. Fry, of Piqua, and to this union there have been born two children: Anita Jane and Dorothy May.

Philip A. Hemm, one of the progressive business men of Piqua, Ohio, is counted among those who have attained to success in their native community. He was born in Miami county, Ohio, October 5, 1888, one of seven children born to F. X. and Barba (Butz) Hemm. He received his education in St. Mary's school, as have so many citizens of Miami county, and upon his graduation was for some time variously employed in office work. Becoming convinced that the commercial development of motor vehicles held a promising future, he gave up his office employment to enter the motorcycle business. He subsequently gave up this enterprise to embark in the automobile business, and in March, 1910 established himself in a business of his own in partnership with his brother, Frank J., under the firm name of Hemm Brothers.

Since the date of its inception the growth of the business has been commensurate with the development of the automobile business. At present the firm of Hemm Brothers occupies very modern and up-to-date sales offices, and the volume of business done demands the space afforded by two store buildings in Piqua, and in addition a branch office of equal size is maintained in Sidney, Ohio. A specialty is made in the sale of Buick, Cadillac, and Chevrolet cars, the agencies for which are held by the firm. Philip A. Hemm is an ardent supporter of all worth-while civic movements, and fraternally is a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He was active in the war work of his locality, and could always be counted on to do his full share toward the support of the war loans, Red Cross and war savings stamp campaigns, and other movements of a similar nature.

Walter F. Henne, who is largely connected with the industrial and commercial interests of Piqua, Ohio, was born at Troy, this state, November 15, 1868, a son of Charles and Theresa (Deis) Henne. Charles Henne was one of the prominent citizens of Troy and is remembered as one of those who were instrumental in securing the retention of the court house at that place. He was a prominent shoe merchant of his city for many years, and occupied a position in high confidence among his associates in the business world. He and his wife were the parents of the following children, all of the sons being active in the rubber industry: George W., William G., Walter F., Jacob, and Theresa. The sons are the principal factors in the conduct of the factories at Columbiana and Mansfield, Ohio, operating tire plants at each place. Walter F. Henne was educated in the public schools of Troy, and as a young man clerked in the postoffice and worked in the shoe store belonging to his father. Another shoe store was opened, at Piqua, and the younger Mr. Henne moved to this place to take charge. This business is now known as Henne Brothers' shoe store and enjoys a large and lucrative patronage. When the Piqua Amusement Company was formed, Mr. Henne became the treasurer and has since remained in this capacity with the firm which controls the operation of all of Piqua's theaters. He is also treasurer of the Columbiana Tire & Rubber Company, of Columbiana and Mansfield, Ohio, and is interested in the New Jersey Car Spring & Rubber Company, the two plants of which, one at Columbiana, and the other at Mansfield, employing about 250 men each. Mr. Henne's interests also include holdings in the Isaly Dairy Company, of Marion and Youngstown, Ohio, this concern being a manufacturer of condensed milk, ice cream and dairy products. He is a director of the Miami Security Company and of the Memorial Hospital. Mr. Henne married Sallie L., daughter of Fred Merritt, and to this union there have been born four children: Francis, who married Louis L. Hinsch, and Ralph, Frederick and Dorothy, who reside with their parents. Mr. Henne took a prominent part in all war activities and was a constructive worker on business men's

committees. He is a member of the Piqua Club, the Piqua Golf Club, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Columbus, and he and the members of his family belong to St. Mary's Catholic Church.

Charles L. Hinsch, one of the progressive and enterprising business citizens of Piqua, Ohio, where he is general manager of the Champion Cutter Company, was born at Piqua, September 6, 1887, a son of W. L. and Julia (Hulsman) Hinsch. His father was a furniture manufacturer of this city, at the head of the business operated as W. L. Hinsch & Company. Charles L. Hinsch attended the public schools of Piqua and prepared himself for a business career by special course in a commercial college at Cincinnati, following which he became associated with his father, with whom he secured a practical training in manufacturing. January 3, 1918, he enlisted in the air service of the United States Army and was undergoing training at Vancouver, Wash., with the rank of second lieutenant at the time the Armistice was signed, receiving his honorable discharge January 16, 1919. At that time he returned to Piqua, and shortly thereafter assumed the duties of general manager of the Champion Cutter Company, with which concern he has since been identified, and to the success of which he has contributed materially. April 25, 1916, Mr. Hinsch married Helen Scott, daughter of William S. and Helen (Nelson) Johnson, the former of whom was for some years a well-known figure in the oil industry. To this union there has been born one daughter, Margaret Ann. Mr. Hinsch is a member of the Presbyterian church, while Mrs. Hinsch is an Episcopalian, and they are well and favorably known in social circles of Piqua, where they have numerous friends.

James Clare Hughes, a leading member of the Miami county bar, ex-mayor of Piqua and one of the prominent and influential Republicans of his community, was born at Portsmouth, Ohio, February 5, 1875, a son of Rev. T. L. and Hortense (Clare) Hughes. Thomas L. Hughes, the grandfather of James C., was born in Wales, from which country he came to the United States and engaged as an iron manufacturer in Jackson county, Ohio, which county he subsequently represented in the state legislature. Rev. T. L. Hughes was a graduate of Ohio state and Princeton universities, studied theology at Lane Theological Seminary, Cincinnati, and was given his first charge as a minister of the Presbyterian faith in Adams county, this state. Later he filled pulpits at Eckmansville and Pomeroy, Ohio, Shelbyville, Ind., and Piqua, Ohio. At the latter place he was pastor of the Presbyterian church from 1892 until his death in 1900. He was a man high in the councils of his church, being moderator of the Ohio Synod and had the love and reverence of his parishioners. He married Hortense, daughter of James D. Clare, a native of Alexandria, Va. Of the six children born to this union, James Clare Hughes was the eldest. He was educated primarily at Shelbyville, Ind., and then attended Washington and Jefferson College. After studying at the Ohio

State University for one year, he was a student at the Indiana Law School for a like period, and upon being graduated therefrom and admitted to the bar came to Piqua. Here he was elected city solicitor in 1901 and reelected in 1903, and in 1905 was chosen mayor by the vote of his fellow-citizens, an office to which he was re-elected in 1907. His administrations were characterized by much constructive work and a conscientious endeavor to be of service to his city and its people. Mr. Hughes has long been prominent in Republican politics and is chairman of the executive committee of his party in Miami county, and a member of the state central and congressional district committees. His standing in his profession is an excellent one. During the war period he served as attorney for the local Red Cross Society and was active in other ways in supporting the policy of the administration at Washington. He is an interested member of the Piqua Rotary Club and his religious faith is that of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Hughes married Anna B., daughter of William Mathews, and sister of Frank Mathews, who was chief gunner of a battery of heavy artillery and saw service in France during the great World war. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes are the parents of one son, Thomas L.

Frank P. Irvin is a typical Miami county man, born in Washington township in 1860, prominent in financial affairs, and of more recent years a leader in movements beneficial to the material and moral uplifting of the community. He comes of good Revolutionary stock, a direct progenitor, Samuel Irvin, having fought as a soldier of the Continental line. Among the most highly-treasured possessions of Mr. Irvin is a handsomely-carved wooden spoon, which was bequeathed to him by his grandfather, and which was carved by Samuel Irvin at Valley Forge during the winter in which General Washington and his troops were encamped at that place. Aside from the splendid soldierly qualities which this patriot possessed, he must have been a man of exceptional skill of craftsmanship, as the spoon is a model of hand carving. This object Mr. Irvin regards as his most priceless possession. Adeline (Brown) Irvin, the mother of Frank P. Irvin, was of Quaker parentage and born at Philadelphia. Her husband, William Irvin, was a life-long agriculturist in Miami county, and was known as one of the substantial men of his community. Frank P. Irvin was educated at Piqua and graduated from the Piqua High School in 1880. He next attended Ohio Wesleyan University, and DePauw University at Greencastle, Ind., and after being otherwise employed for several years, in 1886 entered the employ of the Citizens National Bank, of Piqua, with which he has been associated ever since, through successive promotions attaining his present position as cashier. He is a director in the Border Building & Loan Association and has various other connections which are important in a business and financial way. Mr. Irvin was conspicuous in all local movements connected with the war drives and particularly those attendant to the loan drives and other financial campaigns. Mr. Irvin married Gertrude, daughter of W

F. Mayne, of Fairfield county, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Irvin are consistent members of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Irvin is likewise prominent in Masonry, in which he has attained to the thirty-third degree (honorary) Scottish Rite, and has been past master twice, and illustrious master of the council. For five years he likewise acted as district lecturer of his Masonic district.

Clark B. Jamison. The name of Clark B. Jamison, of Piqua, is written in ineradicable characters on the roll of heroes who gave up their lives in behalf of their fellowmen during the great flood of 1913. In so doing he measured fully up to the standard which is the greatest possible in human life. The circumstances of his heroic sacrifice are set forth in the history of the Piqua flood, elsewhere in this work. Clark Jamison was born at Cadiz, Ohio, August 30, 1864, a son of John C. and Eleanor Jamison. The father served two terms as state senator. He was educated in the public schools and after his graduation there from high school entered Franklin College, later attending a law school at Cincinnati. In order to assist in paying for his legal tuition, Mr. Jamison taught school at odd times, but after securing his admission to the bar he applied himself whole-heartedly to the practice of his calling, in which he made rapid and consistent strides. He was a constant student and an exceptionally well-read man, as well as one who made and retained many friendships. Mr. Jamison's uncle, John Clark, was a United Presbyterian minister, and rose to the rank of colonel in the Union Army. In 1892 Mr. Jamison married Bertha E., daughter of B. and Jennie (Hayes) Wilkinson, and to this union there have been born three children: Charles B., Bertha Jeanetta and Eleanor. Charles B. Jamison was attending the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, when he accepted an offer to go to Panama, leaving Piqua, August 1, 1916. Later he went to Chile, South America, with the Guggenheim mining interests and there he is located at the present time. The late Clark B. Jamison was a man of numerous important connections, and had many friends in Masonic circles, he being a member of that order for years. His widow was greatly interested in the work of the Red-Cross Society during the great World war, and also lent her aid and means in the furtherance of other war activities.

Webb J. Kelly, M. D. A practitioner of medicine and surgery for forty years, and for nineteen years a resident of Piqua, Dr. Webb J. Kelly has become widely and prominently known as a surgeon of splendid ability. He was born in Morrow county, Ohio, in 1857, a son of H. R. and Emma (Keech) Kelly. H. R. Kelly was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and studied for the medical profession at Starling Medical College, for many years following his profession at Galion, this state. During the Civil war he fought in the Union Army and rose to the rank of major, and during his lifetime served as a trustee of the Girls' Industrial Home by appointment of Governor Bishop. His mother was Sarah (Rockefeller Kelly, an aunt of John D. Rockefeller, the great oil magnate and philanthropist. H. R. and Emma (Keech)

Kelly are both deceased and lie at rest in the cemetery near Johnsville, Richland county. The only child of his parents, Webb J. Kelly attended the public schools and Ohio Wesleyan University and was graduated from Starling Medical College in 1879. Later he attended Bellevue for post-graduate work, and began practice at Galion in 1880, remaining there until 1901, when he came to Piqua. During a period of twenty-two years, Doctor Kelly was surgeon of four hundred miles of the Big Four railroad, and at this time is physician for the Meteor Motor Car Company and spends one hour a day at the factory of that company in connection with the industrial welfare work of the concern. Doctor Kelly specializes in surgery, a line in which he has won much more than local reputation. He is a great believer in the benefits securable from an out-of-door life, and his summers he always spends in roughing it in Northern Minnesota. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Improved Order of Red Men and Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He was prominent in all local movements during the recent World war. Mrs. Kelly prior to her marriage to the doctor, bore the maiden name of Viola Coppes.

Harry William Kress. In amusement circles of Piqua no name is better known than that of Harry William Kress, president and manager of the Piqua Amusement Company. A native of Cincinnati, born in 1879, a son of Henry W. and Selma Kress, of that city, he was educated in the public schools and at the Cincinnati College of Pharmacy, subsequently attending a medical college for three years. Professional life, however, did not appeal to him, and, leaving college, he embarked in the grain business at St. Joseph, Ill., later building and operating an elevator at Middletown. From this experience he developed into what is known as a track buyer, or one who buys grain on the track, and joined the Chicago Board of Trade. He was also a member of the Grain Exchange and handled export grain shipments out of Baltimore, Newport News and New York City. Mr. Kress came to Piqua in connection with the grain trade, but it was not long until he became identified with amusement enterprises, this connection eventuating in the formation of the Piqua Amusement Company. The first house operated under the direction of Mr. Kress was the well-known May's Opera House. Later he assumed control of the Strand, Bijou and Princess Theaters, which he still operates. Under his capable management the best productions have been brought to Piqua, and the city has the reputation in the profession of being one of the best "show towns" in the country in point of patronage. Mr. Kress has a wide acquaintance in the theatrical world, and is very popular with all who know him. He is a member of the local lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Piqua Rotary Club. As a progressive citizen, possessed of civic pride and hustle, he has linked his name with those of other public-spirited citizens in the promulgation, fostering and successful accomplishment of a number of municipal enter-

prises tending to advance the city's welfare, and during the war period was a willing worker in behalf of the various war movements and a generous contributor thereto. Mr. Kress married Ollie G., daughter of J. M. Long, a well-known soap manufacturer of Cincinnati, and to this union there have been born two children: Dorothy and Milton, who are attending school.

Edward J. Kugelman, who is at the head of the well-known and substantial firm of R. Kugelman & Company, meat packers of Piqua, was born at Piqua, January 26, 1891, a son of Jacob and Minnie (Schmidt) Kugelman. This business was founded a number of years ago by Jacob Kugelman and his brother Henry, the latter of whom died April 27, 1912. At that time Jacob Kugelman bought his brother's interest in the enterprise from the heirs, and the firm name was changed to Jacob Kugelman & Sons, the two boys, Raymond and Edward J., being interested in the business and assisting in the operation of the plant. When the father died, in May, 1916, the sons continued the business under the name of R. Kugelman & Company, and continued to be successfully associated until January 5, 1919, when Raymond retired. Since then Edward J. Kugelman has conducted the business under the same style and has been greatly successful in his operations, the establishment being rated among the leading industries of its kind at Piqua. Another brother, Arthur Kugelman, is a student at St. Mary's College, Dayton. Edward Kugelman married Cecille, daughter of George Platfoot, of Toledo, and to this union there were born two children: Ruth Agnes and James Edward. Mr. Kugelman is a well-known and popular member of the Knights of Columbus and holds membership in the Piqua Rotary Club. With his family, he belongs to St. Mary's Catholic Church.

Robert Lee Kunkle, M. D. In the uniformly progressive career of Dr. Robert Lee Kunkle several personal traits are quite noticeable, among which is versatility of talents combined with thoroughness of preparation and depth of medical knowledge. A practitioner of Piqua since 1902, he is a native of Galion, Ohio, born March 10, 1876, a son of Elias and Sarah (Flick) Kunkle, his father having been a locomotive engineer. Robert L. Kunkle was one of three children born to his parents and received his early education in the graded and high schools of Galion. He next attended Otterbein University, at Westerville, Ohio, and then pursued a course at the Ohio Medical University, now the medical department of the Ohio State University, Columbus, from which he was graduated with his degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1902. In June of that year he began practice at Piqua, where he has since been successful in building up and retaining a large and representative professional business. Doctor Kunkle is a member of the Miami County Medical Society and the Ohio State Medical Society and a fellow of the American Medical Association. His fraternal affiliations include membership in the Masons and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. For seven months during the great World war he was a lieutenant in the United States

Army medical corps, being stationed first at Camp Pike, Arkansas, later Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, Mo., and finally at Camp Taylor, Louisville, Ky. Doctor Kunkle married Florence, daughter of L. C. Cron, one of Piqua's leading business citizens, and they have one child, Frances Cron.

Raphael and Meyer Louis, proprietors of the Piqua Paper Box Company, are men of recognized worth and standing in business circles of their native city. They are sons of David and Regina (Lebensburger) Louis, natives respectively of Prussia and Bavaria, who emigrated to the United States in 1854, and were married in 1860. In the latter year they came to Piqua, where David Louis built up a successful grocery business from small beginnings and became a merchant who enjoyed the unqualified respect of his business associates and the unbounded confidence of the public. He and his worthy wife are now deceased. They were the parents of five children: Abe, who is New York representative of the Atlas Underwear Company of Piqua; Leo, engaged in the grocery business in this city; Rose, Meyer and Raphael. Raphael Louis was born at Piqua, October 7, 1861, and received his education in the public schools. His introduction to business affairs was obtained in his father's grocery, and later he turned his attention to the jewelry business in partnership with his brother Meyer, with whom he founded the Piqua Paper Box Company in 1908. A detailed record of this concern will be found in the industrial section of this work. Meyer Louis was born at Piqua, November 1, 1862, and like his brother secured a public school education. For a time he was identified with the book and stationery business at Piqua, and then joined his brother in the jewelry business, eventually assisting him in the founding of the Piqua Paper Box Company. The Louis brothers are well known for their high business principles and sound integrity and have been supporters of good government and constructive civic movements. Meyer Louis was united in marriage in 1892 with Miss Fannie Stern, of Philadelphia, Pa., and to this union there have been born four children: Ruth, Samuel, Helen and Ralph. Samuel Louis enlisted May 25, 1917, in the United States Army and after undergoing intensive training at Camp Custer was assigned to the medical corps. After going overseas he was stationed at the Base Hospital at Mars-Sur-Allier, France, and continued there until the signing of the armistice, when he returned to the United States and was honorably discharged, being mustered out of the service with a splendid record, July 17, 1919.

W. H. Loy, who is now living in retirement at Piqua, was long held to be one of the most honorable and clear-headed citizens of his community. A man of marked organizing and systematizing powers, he accomplished much for the practical good of the enterprises with which he was identified during his long and consistently successful career. Mr. Loy was born on a farm in Spring Creek township, Miami county, Ohio, June 1, 1851, a son of John and Cynthia A. (Buckle) Loy. The father settled on a farm

in Spring Creek township, in 1853, and his wife still lives upon this farm. She is now (1920) in her ninetieth year. The Buckles family descended from Robert Buckles, son of a wealthy English landholder who came to America in 1719 as a stowaway. Since an early day the members of this family have been prominent in Miami county, to which the first emigrant from the East was James Buckles, a settler of Lost Creek township, near Conover. He had two sons who served as soldiers of the Union during the war between the North and the South, William and George, and his only daughter, Cynthia A., became the mother of W. H. Loy. She and her husband, James W. Loy, were the parents of nine children: William, Horace, Wilbur, Luella, Clara, John, Grant, Nellie and Edward. W. H. Loy was educated at Piqua, Ohio, and remained at home as his father's associate on the farm until the time of his marriage. He then became a manufacturer of slack barrel staves, later engaging in the crushed stone business. He was for a time secretary of the Stone Products Company, which subsequently disposed of its interests to the Ohio Marble Company. Mr. Loy was identified with the stone business until the time of his retirement, since which time he has resided at his comfortable home at No. 516 North Downing street. Mr. Loy married Zelia DeWeese, daughter of Henry, and to this union there were born two children: Bertha, and Carrie, who married Doctor Eugene Tupper, of Ottawa, Ohio, and has two children: James and Carolyn. Mr. Loy's second marriage was to Miss Eva Godfrey, and they have one son, John, who was commissioned a second lieutenant of field artillery at Fort Benjamin Harrison and later advanced to captain in France. He is now superintendent of a manufacturing concern at Carey, Ohio. He married Helen Whitlock, of Columbus, Ohio. Mr. Loy is a consistory Mason and a member of the Piqua Club. With his wife and family he belongs to the Presbyterian church. During the war period he was a generous supporter all the way through of movements supporting the policy of the Government.

Charles Herbert Lucas, who conducts a modern pharmacy at the corner of Wayne and Water streets, Piqua, is one of the younger business citizens who has succeeded in gaining a firm foothold in commercial circles. He was born at Circleville, Ohio, July 9, 1887, a son of Charles R. and Artie (Griest) Lucas, and comes of Revolutionary ancestry, his great-grandfather Clark having fought as a soldier during the winning of American independence. His maternal grandfather, Isaac Griest, was at one time sheriff of Miami county. There were three children in the family: Mrs. William Kuhn, of Columbus, Ohio; Mrs. W. B. Toole, of Seattle, Wash., and Charles Herbert. Charles H. Lucas attended the graded and high schools of Circleville, and in 1910 was graduated from Ohio State University. For two years thereafter he served in the capacity of pharmacist at that institution, following which he became a clerk in the drug store of George H. Ficard & Sons, at Circleville. He was similarly employed at

Greenfield, Ohio, and September 7, 1915, came to Piqua, where he purchased the drug store formerly owned by Louis May. Here he has since built up an excellent patronage, through honorable methods of business, and carries a complete modern line of drugs, medicines, proprietary articles, toilet goods, etc. He maintains a high standard of business ethics and has the good will and esteem of his associates and the confidence of the buying public. June 12, 1913, Mr. Lucas was united in marriage with Lillian E., daughter of Dr. George and Melissa (Southward) Colville, and to this union there have been born three children: Richard Colville, Charles Herbert, Jr., and Robert Gordon. Mr. Lucas is a member of the Loyal Order of Moose, in which he has numerous friends. His business interests have kept his time occupied so as to exclude him from active participation in political matters, but he has not been neglectful of the duties of citizenship and has been a supporter of good measures. All war movements found him generous in his contributions of time, ability and means.

Charles Warren Magee is one of the best known figures in the printing trade of the Middle West, and as head of the big Magee Printing Company, at Piqua, directs the operations of one of the largest and best-equipped establishments of its kind in the country. He was born in Trumbull county, Ohio, September 19, 1872, a son of Albert and Melvina (Harte) Magee, the former of whom has been identified, for many years, with the Pioneer Pole & Shaft Company. Charles Warren Magee was educated in the public schools and was still a youth when he entered the printing establishment of Jerome Smiley, at Piqua. There he served his apprenticeship and applied himself resolutely and sedulously to becoming a thorough and practical printer, a trade at which he worked at the case and otherwise until 1895. At that time, with his brother Edwin, he founded the printing establishment of Magee Brothers Company, at first a modest establishment which later grew steadily and rapidly under good management and honorable fulfillment of contracts. At the time of the death of Edwin Magee, Charles W. Magee assumed entire control of the enterprise the subsequent success of which is due to his progressive ideas and a thorough knowledge of the printing art. This is now one of the most efficient printing plants in the Middle West, excelling in high art printing and difficult color work and making a specialty of catalog printing for many of the large business concerns throughout the country. During the war period Mr. Magee was a constructive force in aiding the various movements promulgated by the administration at Washington. He is a popular member of the Elks and Eagles, and belongs to the T. M. A., the Piqua Club, the Rotary Club and the Cosmopolitan Club. With his family, he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Magee was married in 1902 to Edith, daughter of George Simon, of Piqua, and to this union there was born one son, Charles Edward, who is a student at Todd University, Woodstock, Ill. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Magee married Miss Leota Merriam, of Dayton.

Mose Mickler. One of the prosperous business enterprises of Piqua which has shown a consistent and healthy growth during the comparatively short period of its existence is the Mickler Department Store, the directing head of which at this time is Mose Mickler. Mr. Mickler was born at Burlington, Iowa, in April, 1889, a son of Abram and Sylvia Mickler, his father having been a business man of Burlington and Piqua. There were six children in the family: John, Harry and Ed, who are identified with the Kaufman department store at Springfield, Ohio; Mose, and two married daughters. Mose Mickler secured his education in the public schools of Burlington, Iowa, and Dayton, Ohio, and as a youth worked at the latter city for one year. In 1904 he came with his parents to Piqua, where his father engaged in business, the enterprise being first known as Mickler & Son. At first it was an unpretentious venture, but under the urge of progressive ideas and capable management it steadily grew and developed, and recently it was found necessary to secure larger quarters, with the result that the present building was obtained. This store is well-appointed, handsomely equipped and possesses an attractive glass front, and the large patronage that the business has always enjoyed will no doubt be greatly increased in the near future as the proprietors are now in a position to cater to all classes of trade and especially to the more discriminating patronage. Mr. Mickler is a young man of sound business acumen, energetic in his actions and practical in his ideas. He is a veteran of the great World war, having been overseas for thirteen months with the infantry division of the American Expeditionary Forces.

Kenneth Miller, who is identified with the promotion and operation of amusement enterprises at Piqua, is one of the younger business citizens of that community who has attained a place of prestige through individual merit. He was born at Piqua, in 1891, a son of John D. and Louise (Connelly) Miller, the former of whom is a member of the well-known clothing firm of Miller & Baldwin, clothiers. They had two children: Arnold and Kenneth. Kenneth Miller received a graded and high school education at Piqua, and after leaving the latter became associated with the clothing business, in the firm of his father. As a member of Company C, Third Ohio Infantry, he was called to the Mexican border at the outbreak of trouble with Mexico, and returned to Fort Benjamin Harrison with his company shortly before the entrance of the United States into the great World war. Later he went to Columbus, Ohio, where his contingent was detailed to guard bridges, and in 1917 entered the officers' training camp and after being commissioned second lieutenant was assigned to the Eighty-third division. In June, 1918, his regiment left for France, being assigned to the Le Mons area for intensive training, and while there Mr. Miller was promoted first lieutenant, his subsequent service being in that district. He was honorably discharged and mustered out of the service, August 6, 1919, and since his return to civilian life has interested himself in promotional and managerial

activities in connection with amusement enterprises. Mr. Miller married Mildred L., daughter of J. M. Hitt, of Circleville, Ohio, in February, 1920. He is a member of the local order of Elks and has numerous warm friends throughout the community who are watching his career with interest.

Otto Millhouse, junior member of the firm of Lape & Millhouse, dealers in stoves and metal and household ware, is one of Piqua's reliable business men. He was born in this city in 1876, a son of I. and Catherine (Coffing) Millhouse, the former a veteran of the Civil war and for many years a substantial agriculturist of Miami county. Otto Millhouse received his education in the public schools of Piqua, and for some years after putting aside his school books was variously employed. In about 1900 he embarked in the hardware business, the present business having been founded by Orr, Comly & Sheridan. Later it was operated by J. B. Sheridan, which concern was succeeded by Sheridan & Lape, and this was in turn followed by the present firm of Jape, & Millhouse. This concern is the local retail distributor for the famous Favorite stoves and ranges, E. W. Lape, connected with this firm, being vice-president of the Favorite Stove & Range Company. In addition to a complete line of stoves and ranges, the stock includes a full supply of kitchen utensils and metal household appurtenances. Mr. Millhouse is a capable business man who is also a courteous and obliging merchant and a man who has built up public confidence in himself through following a line of steadfast fidelity and integrity in all his dealings. He is a faithful member of the Church of Christ and has a number of civic and social connections, and during the war period was active in all local matters pertaining to the Government's drives for the gaining of men and money for the support of the cause. Mr. Millhouse married Mabel F., daughter of Lowrey and Mollie (Cuney) Russell, and to this union there has been born one son, Benton R., who is attending the Piqua High School.

Homer Victor Monroe. Among the merchants of the younger generation at Piqua, one who has made rapid progress during the two years of his connection with business affairs is Homer Victor Monroe, proprietor of the Monroe Cycle Store. Mr. Monroe was born at Sidney, Ohio, February 16, 1895, a son of W. E. and Lura (Noll) Monroe, who passed their younger days in Shelby county and are still residents of Sidney, where W. E. Monroe is successfully engaged in business as proprietor of a grocery. They have five children: Homer Victor, of this review; Paul, who is manager of a bicycle and supply store at Sidney, and Leora, John and Winfield, who reside with their parents. Homer V. Monroe received his educational training in the graded and high schools of Sidney and at Ohio State University, where he spent two and one-half years, specializing in science. With his education completed, he became a salesman for the Frantz-Premier Company, of Cleveland, a position which he retained until 1918. At that time he was ready to engage in business on his own account, and accordingly came to

Piqua, where he founded a bicycle establishment on North Main street. Here he carries a full line of bicycles, supplies, sporting goods and toys, and is Piqua agent for the Davis line of bicycles, including such makes as the Dayton, National and Snell. He has built up an excellent patronage, his customers having found him reliable, energetic and courteous and possessed of a comprehensive knowledge of his business. He is something of a natural mechanic and maintains a repair department in connection with his business, which has shown a gratifying growth during the comparatively short period of its existence. Prior to coming to Piqua, Mr. Monroe was united in marriage with Aetna May, daughter of Charles Martz, of Sidney, Ohio, and to this union there has been born one daughter, Genevieve J. He holds membership in the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias, and Elks, in which he has numerous friends, and he and Mrs. Monroe are members of the Methodist church. During the war period Mr. Monroe was a generous supporter of war movements and Mrs. Monroe took an active part in the work of the local Red Cross Society.

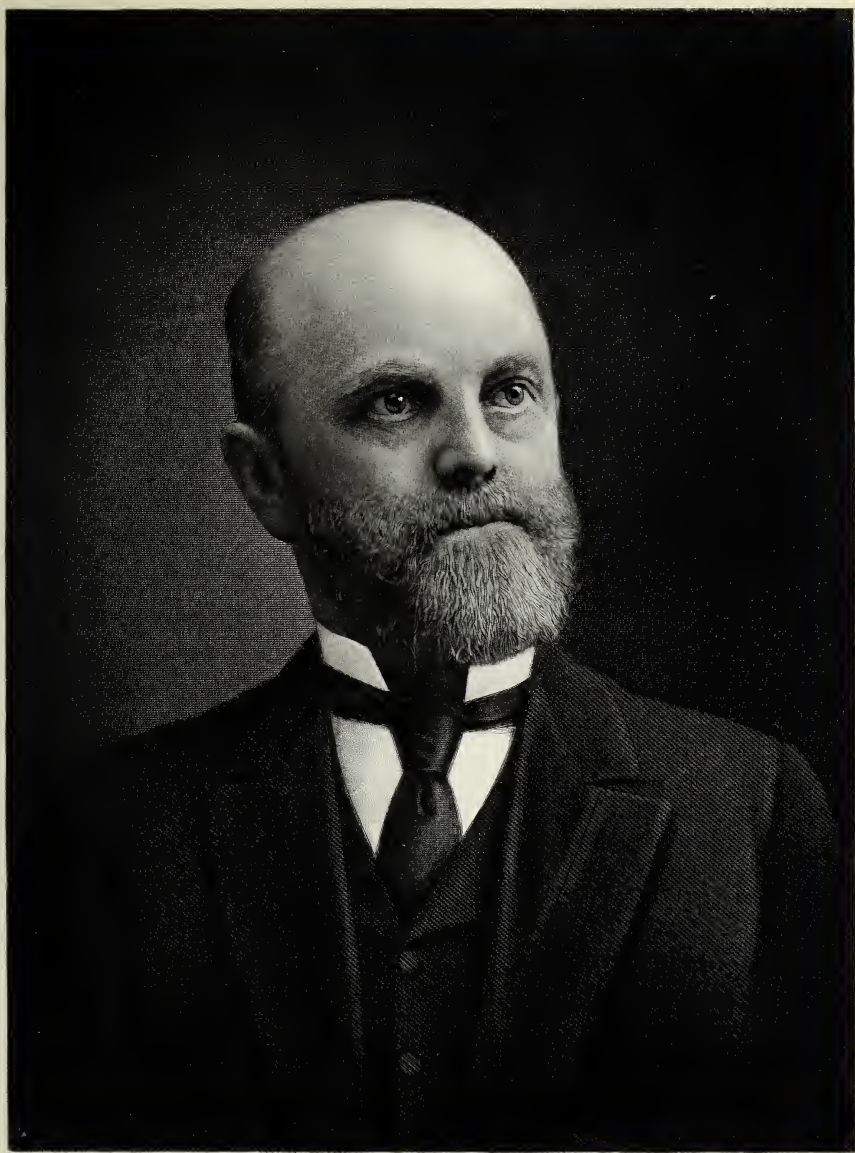
E. J. Myers, the proprietor of an automobile tire store at Piqua, is one of the younger business generation and a man who has attained success in several lines of endeavor. He was born in Frederick county, Maryland, March 6, 1889, a son of E. W. and Carrie (Nash) Myers, and was a child when brought to Troy, where his parents still make their home. There were five children in the family: D. T., E. J., Mrs. Crissie Collins, of Troy; Mrs. A. Lynn, also of that city, and Mrs. Carrie Dye, of Piqua. E. J. Myers was given ordinary public school advantages at Tippecanoe City and Troy, and after the completion of his studies secured employment with the Allen & Wheeler Company, at Troy. Next, he went to Florida, where he homesteaded 160 acres in DeSoto county, which he still owns and which is rapidly becoming a valuable property. When he had proved up on his land, Mr. Myers returned to Troy and engaged as a machinist. While there he was engaged during a large part of the great World war in making aeroplane parts for the United States Government. Eventually, he turned his attention to the automobile tire and repair business, and finally moved to Piqua, where he opened a tire store. He uses the Anderson system of vulcanizing, and has built up a splendid practice, commanding a trade that includes the community of Piqua and the territory surrounding and adjoining. He is a young man of marked energy and progressiveness and one who is rapidly establishing his position as a business man of soundness and integrity. He is a member of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics and the Masons, and has numerous friends in each. Mrs. Myers was formerly Miss Daisy Marshall, daughter of Charles Marshall, of Troy.

Louis G. Peffer, secretary of the Third Savings & Loan Company of Piqua, who is also contributing to the good government of the municipality through his services in the office of city treasurer, was born at Piqua, December 14, 1889, a son of Adam and Phil-

omena (Fink) Pepper, One of Mr. Pepper's brothers, George, is cashier of the Piqua National Bank, and another, Charles, is head of the Sidney (Ohio) Knitting Works. Louis G. Pepper was educated at St. Mary's Parochial School and as a youth secured his introduction to business affairs as a bookkeeper in a clothing store. In 1907 he became connected with banking affairs, and from that time to the present his advancement has been steady, his present office as secretary of the Third Savings & Loan Company having been secured through a display of ability and fidelity. During the war period Mr. Pepper entered the officers' training school, at Camp Pike, but the armistice was signed before he received his commission. He likewise served as secretary of the Knights of Columbus at Camp Sheridan and Fort McPherson. His social and civic connections at Piqua are numerous, and his friendships extend throughout the city.

The Piqua Plating and Novelty Works. While of comparatively recent inception, the Piqua Plating & Novelty Works has already established a reputation in the line of fine plating of metals. This concern was formerly owned and conducted by Fred Page and John Fecker, but in August, 1919, came under the ownership, by purchase, of E. A. Williams and Charles Tallon, the present proprietors. The business occupies the entire building at College avenue and Covington road, where a modern plant is maintained, and the proprietors are experienced men in their line, who understand every detail of the business and are thoroughly capable to carry out any contract in the field of fine metal plating and nickel, brass, copper and other metal finishing. The concern has permanently established itself in public confidence and its rating in business circles is high.

Albert C. Priller, proprietor of a flourishing market at 131 Market street, is a substantial business citizen of Piqua, who has built up a substantial reputation for fair dealing and integrity. He was born at St. Paris, Ohio, and is a son of George G. and Amelia (Meyers) Priller. George G. Priller was a butcher by trade and established himself in business at Piqua in that line when he took his family to that city about 1885. His shop on South Main street was well patronized and he was generally considered a substantial citizen and honorable business man. He and his wife were the parents of twelve children, of whom nine are living: Frank, who is engaged in the meat business at Tippecanoe City, Ohio; Fred of Troy; Albert C., of this review; Louis and Charles, residents of Tippecanoe City; August, of Dayton; Lena, the wife of Stephen Hughes, of Indianapolis, Ind.; Mrs. Agnes Manly, of Dayton, and Mrs. George Nordhoff, of Dayton. Albert C. Priller was educated in the public schools of Piqua and learned the meat business with his father, with whom he was associated for some years. In November, 1909, he bought his store, where he established himself in business as the proprietor of his present market, and since that time has advanced to a place of recognized substantiality among the citizenship of the community. Fraternally, he is affiliated



Engel & Campbell, N.Y.

Joseph A. Shade



with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Fraternal Order of Eagles, in both of which lodges he has numerous friends. He and Mrs. Priller attend the Presbyterian church, and during the war period were active in the work of the Red Cross Society and other war movements. Prior to her marriage Mrs. Priller was Miss Frances Shie. She is a daughter of J. W. Shie, who is still engaged in business at Piqua as the proprietor of a furniture store.

John H. Prince, M. D. In the list of medical men of Miami county, the name of Dr. John H. Prince, of Piqua, is recognized as that of a capable and conscientious physician and surgeon, and a man who has established a recognized place for himself among the leaders of his profession in this locality. He was born at St. Paris, Champaign county, Ohio, in 1878, a son of Joseph and Amanda (Deffenbaugh) Prince. Joseph Prince, who followed agriculture during the active period of his life, was a veteran of the war between the states, in which he fought bravely as a member of the One Hundred and Thirty-first regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He and his wife were the parents of four children: William E., Charles I., Dr. Frank J., a physician of Stevensville, Mont., and Dr. John H. John H. Prince received his preparatory education in the public schools and at Heidelberg, and Tiffin, Ohio, and eventually entered the medical college of the University of Cincinnati, from which he was duly graduated with the class of 1909, receiving the degree of Doctor of Medicine. In September of that year he took up his residence at Piqua, where he has since been engaged in the acquirement of a large and profitable practice. He is physician for the Fraternal Order of Eagles at Piqua and a man of accepted standing in his calling. During the great World war he endeavored to enlist in the United States Army, but because of slight physical defects was not accepted. However, he managed to enroll as a member of the medical reserve corps, and in that capacity contributed excellent work, giving also much gratuitous service to the men who were going overseas. Doctor Prince married Edith, daughter of William Guinn, and sister of Lieutenant Dwight Guinn, United States Army, who saw service in France with the American Expeditionary Forces. Doctor Prince belongs to the local lodges of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Loyal Order of Moose, the Junior Order United American Mechanics and the Modern Woodmen of America. Both during and since the great war, Mrs. Prince has been an enthusiastic worker in behalf of the American Red Cross.

Joseph A. Shade. In the lumber industry of Ohio, the name of Joseph A. Shade is recognized as that of a man who possesses an intimate knowledge of the business and whose experience has been broad and comprehensive. Mr. Shade, who is general manager of the Wright-Kuntz Lumber Company, of Piqua, was born at Dayton, Ohio, June 30, 1855, a son of Joseph and Ellen (Livensberger) Shade. The Shade family, which possesses a brilliant mili-

tary history, came to Ohio from Berks county, Pennsylvania, while Mrs. Ellen Shade was related to the well-known Spitler family, of Pennsylvania. Joseph Shade was one of the largest tanners during the early days in Ohio, conducting a tannery at Dayton, to which he shipped hides from as far north as Toledo, via the old Miami canal. He and his wife were the parents of five children: Joseph A., Margaret, who married William Taylor; Mary, who married Martin Herr; Henrietta, who married Warren Benham, and Nellie, who married Frank Vater. Joseph A. Shade was educated in the public schools of Dayton, St. Mary's College, Miami Commercial College, and graduated from the normal school at Lebanon, Ohio, under Professor Holbrook. After leaving school he farmed for a time in Darke county. Subsequently he engaged in the grocery business at Noblesville, Ind., and while there was united in marriage with Kate L., daughter of Homer Evans. Homer Evans married Harriett Emily Brown, a native of New York, in March, 1860, and they were the parents of five children, three of whom died in infancy. Those surviving are Mrs. Shade, and Mrs. F. P. Johns, of San Jose, Calif. Mr. Evans died in 1903, and Mrs. Evans in 1920. An uncle of Mrs. Shade, Major John B. Evans, became noted for his military record during the war between the states, and another uncle, James Evans, was elected congressman from Indiana. After his marriage, Mr. Shade went to Springfield, Mo., where he engaged for a time in farming, but later returned to Ohio and became associated with the Wright-Kuntz Lumber Company, first at Greenville, where he rose to a foremanship. He was then made bookkeeper, and in 1889 came to Piqua as manager of the local plant, a position which he has since occupied, in addition to discharging the duties of vice-president and treasurer. Mr. Shade, in addition to being one of his city's leading business men, has taken a prominent and active part in civic affairs. He was a member of the city council during the momentous flood period, when he was credited with much effective work in the way of reconstruction, and was prominent in the fight for location of the "Y" elevation of the railroad tracks, defending the city's interests at that time. He has likewise been interested in the revival of waterway transportation, and when Gen. Warren Kiefer was in Congress, Mr. Shade became one of the congressman's chief supporters in the advocacy of a barge canal through this region. At the Retail Lumbermen's Convention, and at the convention of lumbermen, at Toledo, he introduced resolutions favorable to this project. He has at times gone to considerable personal expense in advocating canal construction and traffic. At all times he has shown himself a constructive and public-spirited citizen, willing to give of his time, abilities and means in any project which has promised to redound to the benefit of the city and its people. Mr. and Mrs. Shade are the parents of four children: Homer and Harry, who died in infancy; Ruth M., the wife of Leon F. Koeser, and they are the parents of four daughters, Louise, Rosiland, Harriet, and Laura; and Harriet, who died at the age of six years.

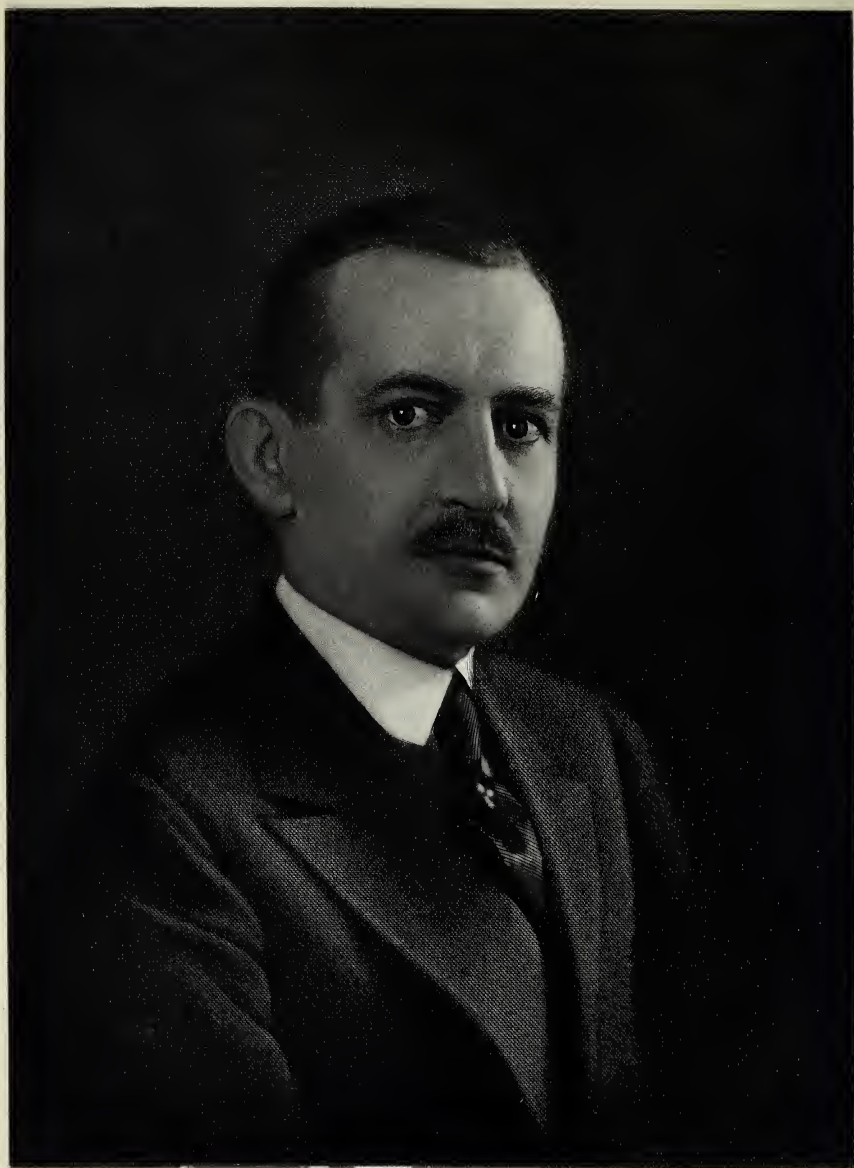
William E. Rogers. One of the men who enjoys an excellent reputation in business circles of Piqua is William E. Rogers, implement dealer and ex-sheriff of Miami county. Mr. Rogers was born at Ironton, Ohio, a son of Peter and Anna (Williams) Rogers, and a nephew of Thomas Williams, who established a lasting reputation for bravery during his service as a soldier of the Union in the war between the North and the South. Peter Rogers was born in France, of English parents who had gone to France from their native Staffordshire, to which they eventually returned. Peter Rogers was but eighteen years of age when he came to the United States, and during the remainder of his life was variously employed, principally with the iron industry. He and his wife were the parents of three children: William E., Emma, and Mrs. Elizabeth Fisher, whose son, Roger Fisher, served in the United States Infantry during the great World war. William E. Rogers was educated in the public schools of Ironton, where he spent some years working in the iron and steel industry. In 1899 he came to Piqua and entered the plant of the Cincinnati Corrugating Company, with which concern he continued to be identified until 1902, when he was elected sheriff of Miami county on the Republican ticket. He proved a capable and energetic official, and at the expiration of his term, in 1906, embarked in the implement business. He enjoys an excellent patronage and a reputation for sound integrity and honorable transactions. Mr. Rogers belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Pythias and is a thirty-second degree Mason. Mrs. Rogers, a lady of numerous accomplishments, was formerly Miss Grace Gilles.

Will J. Prince, acting postmaster of Piqua, and one of that city's most favorably known men of the younger generation, was born at Piqua, April 19, 1889, a son of William and Jennie (Schneider) Prince. The Prince family is an old and honorable one which originated in this country in West Virginia, in which state was born the grandfather of Mr. Prince. An uncle, Isaac Redenbaugh, met a soldier's death at the Battle of Petersburg, during the war between the states. William Prince was a graduate of the Ohio Eclectic College of Medicine, Cincinnati, and for many years was engaged in the practice of his profession at Piqua. Appointed postmaster, he occupied that office from August 27, 1913, until his death March 28, 1918. He was a member of the Piqua School Board for a quarter of a century, being president for many years, and likewise served in the capacity of director of safety for several years. Will J. Prince attended the public schools of Piqua, and after graduating from the Piqua High School pursued courses at Exeter College, New Hampshire, and Wittenberg College. He began his business career as part owner of the Landham & Prince Milling Company, at Union City, Ind., and later entered journalism and was made city editor of the Piqua Daily Call. With his father and others, he became one of the organizers of the Piqua Daily Press, with which he continued to be identified until the entrance of the United States into the World war. As a volunteer of Com-

pany C, Ohio National Guard, he left Piqua with his company and later became attached to Headquarters Company, One Hundred and Forty-eighth regiment, Thirty-seventh division, as supply sergeant having charge of equipment and supplies. He was sent overseas with this contingent and during the engagements of the Argonne, St. Mihiel and Flanders was in charge of transporting supplies to his regiment at the front. When his lieutenant was wounded in the stomach and incapacitated during the Argonne battle, Sergeant Prince assumed charge of a wagon train, as next in command, and continued so until the close of the war. His distinguished services in this connection won him a citation. Following the signing of the armistice, his regiment was returned home and he again took up his residence at Piqua. May 15, 1919, he was appointed temporary postmaster, succeeding his father who had died in office. He has discharged the duties of this office in a highly commendable manner, and has won the unqualified confidence of his fellow-citizens as a man of unquestioned integrity and marked ability. Mr. Prince married Loa Flo, daughter of Joseph and Mary Wilson, of R. F. D. No. 4, Piqua. He is a member of the Masons, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and Loramie Tribe of the Improved Order of Red Men, of which he is sachem. His religious affiliation is with the Presbyterian church. Mr. Prince is enthusiastically interested in the affairs of the American Legion, being post commander of Paul Schnell Post, No. 184, Piqua, by which he was elected delegate to the first convention of the American Legion, held at Minneapolis, Minn.

Lawrence P. Roney. In the field of realty dealing, one of Piqua's citizens who has achieved success is Lawrence P. Roney. Mr. Roney has passed his life in Miami county, having been born at Troy, in April, 1882, a son of L. R. and Marietta (Pence) Roney, and a nephew of the noted Henry B. Roney, the musician and theatrical man, who has toured the country for a number of years with the attraction known as the Roney boys. Silas Roney, the grandfather of Lawrence P., was a captain of Ohio Volunteer Infantry during the Civil war and after a distinguished career as a soldier won recognition and position in civil life. The Pence family originated in the vicinity of St. Paris, Ohio, the maternal grandfather of Mr. Roney being Amos Pence, a well-known citizen of Champaign county, where the Pence family was prominently known for many years. L. R. and Marietta Roney were the parents of four children: Lawrence P., William, Bernard and Loretta. The last named is now the wife of Harry Brading, of Evansville, Ind. Lawrence P. Roney was educated in the public schools of Troy, Ohio, after leaving which he became identified with the wall paper business. From early manhood he had evidenced an attraction to the real estate business, and upon coming to Piqua, in 1918, established himself in business as an operator in and handler of realty. He has already figured prominently in some large and important transactions, and is known as an alert and wide-awake dealer, possessing a keen knowledge of values and evidenc-





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Wm Willard 3rd

ing marked integrity in his dealings. He belongs to several civic and social bodies, including the Cosmopolitan Club, and while his residence here has been comparatively of short duration, he has already entered fully into the active life of the enterprising city.

William Wilson Wood, III., vice-president and treasurer of The Wood Shovel & Tool Company and one of the sound and substantial business citizens of Piqua, was born in this city March 19, 1878, a son of Harley Kirk Wood and a grandson of William Webster Wood. The Woods form an old Colonial family who came to New England from England in 1637 and established themselves in New Hampshire, whence several members of the family enlisted for service in the Revolutionary war. William Webster Wood came from Hollis, N. H., to Piqua, Ohio, in 1837, and became prominent in the early affairs of the community, both as a citizen and a business man. He was a seeker for gold in California during the early fifties, but returned to Piqua and here rounded out an eminently successful and honorable career. His son, Harley Kirk Wood, has long been a leader in business life, as president of The Wood Shovel & Tool Company, president and member of the board of directors of the Piqua National Bank and former president and general manager for many years of The Piqua Electric Company. He has also been a leader in church, educational, fraternal and social circles. He married Frances Adelaide Wilson, a daughter of Judge William Martin Wilson, and a granddaughter on the maternal side of Major James Maxwell Dorsey, the first treasurer of Miami University. The only child of his parents, William W. Wood attended the Piqua High School and Phillips Academy, at Exeter, N. H., from which he was graduated with the class of 1898. Returning to his home, he entered the employ of The Piqua Electric Company, with which concern he was identified until December, 1899, when he became associated with The Philadelphia Clay Manufacturing Company, at Carlisle, Pa. Two years later he severed that connection and returned to Piqua and soon afterward became one of the incorporators of The Wood Shovel & Tool Company, of which he became secretary and treasurer. The industry is one of importance and Mr. Wood possesses the energy, influence, enterprise and capability to make it one of the leading concerns of its line in the country. In politics Mr. Wood is an ardent Republican and stands high in the councils of his party. He has served as chairman of the Republican County Central Committee and the County Executive Committee, and has the tact and diplomacy which are so necessary to make these offices effective in maintaining party harmony and securing tangible results in the way of success. In 1920 he was a delegate to the Republican National Convention held at Chicago which nominated Warren G. Harding, of Ohio, for the presidency, and thereafter worked energetically in behalf of the senator's candidacy. He was an alternate-at-large to the national convention of 1912 and a delegate as well in 1916. Mr. Wood is an interested member of the Piqua Club and a prominent Mason. He is also a

member of the Sons of the American Revolution and the Ohio Society of New York. His religious connection is with the St. James Protestant Episcopal Church, to which also belongs Mrs. Wood, who prior to her marriage was Miss Aileen Frederick Boal, of Piqua, a daughter of William King Boal and Eliza Van Bibber Boal.

Forest Lee Schmidlapp, who has been prominently identified with several leading business concerns of Piqua and is now an official of the Piqua Paper Cap Company, was born in this city in 1884, a son of William D. and Elizabeth (Nollen) Schmidlapp. William Schmidlapp, who was well and favorably known to the business men of Piqua during a long term of years, had a number of interests, chief among which was the Piqua Malt Company, in the successful development of which he played an active and important part. The public schools of Piqua and Dayton furnished Forest Lee Schmidlapp with his educational training, and as a young man he became connected with the L. C. & W. L. Cron Manufacturing Company, of Piqua. Subsequently he transferred his interests to Cleveland, where he was concerned in the operation of a hardware enterprise. Returning then to Piqua, he assisted in the organization of the Piqua Paper Cap Company, of which he has since acted as an official, and of which concern a complete history will be found in the industrial section of this work. A live and energetic, as well as thoroughly capable business man, Mr. Schmidlapp possesses in the fullest degree the confidence of his associates. He is well connected fraternally, belonging to the Masons, Elks and Eagles, and his religious faith is that of the Lutheran church. During the period of the war he took an active part in assisting all war-time measures, and at other times has displayed a high order of constructive citizenship. September 6, 1913, Mr. Schmidlapp married Miss Mary Lawhord, and to this union there have been born three children: Forest Lee, Jr., Gretchen Mary and William David.

Al Schuesselin, a popular citizen and successful business man of Piqua, has been identified here with the meat business for some years, and is otherwise variously connected with the activities of this thriving community. He was born at Pleasant Hill, Ohio, a son of C. F. Schuesselin, who conducted a meat business there for thirty-five years and is still the proprietor of a flourishing establishment at that place. C. F. Schuesselin married Elizabeth Steahlin, and they became the parents of five children: Fred, a resident of Dayton, where he is interested in business ventures; Edward, who enlisted in Company C, Third division Infantry, regular army, and met a hero's death in the fierce fighting in the Argonne; Arthur, who was in Company H, Eighty-third division, American Expeditionary Forces, during the great World war, and now a resident of Pleasant Hill, and who married Luella Croy; Hermina, who resides with her parents, and Al. Edward Schuesselin left a widow, formerly Bertha Decker, the one child, Dorothea. Al Schuesselin was educated in the public schools of Pleasant Hill,

and as a youth learned the trade of butcher under the direction of his father. For a time he was associated with the elder man, and then came to Piqua, where he purchased his present establishment, which was formerly conducted under the style of C. F. Schuesselin & Sons. He built up a large and representative patronage, and is accounted one of the leading retail merchants of his community. Mr. Schuesselin is a prominent member of the Presbyterian church, in which he is vice-president of the Good Fellowship class, being also ex-president of the brotherhood. Fraternally he is affiliated with the local lodges of the Masons and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in each of which he has numerous friends. Mr. Schuesselin married Bertha, daughter of Joseph Trost, and they have one daughter, Norma.

Hon. J. Harrison Smith. The possessor of a record of more than ordinary merit as a member of the bench and bar of Piqua, Hon. J. Harrison Smith is gaining added distinction by the manner in which he is discharging his duties as mayor of this enterprising and progressive city. Mayor Smith is a native son of Piqua, born September 1, 1861, his parents being John F. and Mary (Stoner) (Sullenbarger) Smith. John F. Smith enlisted as a Union soldier during the war between the states, and as a member of Company K, First Ohio Infantry, died of wounds received at the battle of Stone River, Tenn., March 23, 1863. J. Harrison Smith attended the country schools. He graduated from the high school at Piqua in 1884 and attended Ohio Wesleyan University one year, 1885-1886, then attended Harvard two years, 1887 and 1888. After studying law with John McDonald for a time, he entered politics and was elected secretary of the county central committee. Later he was appointed special government agent in Arkansas and Mississippi on mortgage indebtedness certificates, a law having been passed by congressional enactment to compile the mortgaged indebtedness of the country. Mr. Smith later went to Washington, D. C., to help complete the work of classification, having secured this appointment by competitive examination and being chosen first of all competitors by a process of elimination. When he had completed these duties he entered Columbian University Law School, now George Washington Law School, Washington, D. C., where he received the degrees of Bachelor of Laws and Master of Laws, and, returning to Piqua, engaged in the practice of his profession. June 7, 1896, he was nominated prosecuting attorney and was subsequently elected to that office, in which he served efficiently for six years. During the time he was in this office he was elected probate judge of Miami county and acted ably in that capacity for one term. He has since been engaged in general practice and is accounted one of the foremost members of the Miami county bar. In 1919 Judge Smith was nominated the candidate of the Non-Partisan ticket, for the office of mayor of Piqua, and in a campaign with the Socialist candidate, was successful over his opponent, taking office January 1, 1920. His administration has already been characterized by work of a

constructive nature which has served to win public confidence Mayor Smith married Anna, daughter of Bernard and Kate (Ford) Ball, of St. Louis. Mrs. Smith died March 17, 1916, having been the mother of three children: J. Harrison, Jr., who is deceased, and William Fred and Mary Catherine, who reside with their father. Mayor Smith is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and his fraternal connections include membership in the Masons, Elks and Red Men.

Andrew G. Snyder. Although still classed with the younger generation of business men at Piqua, few are better known in business and financial circles than Andrew G. Snyder. He is a native son of Piqua, and was born March 27, 1887, his parents being William A. and Fannie (Hall) Snyder. His father is chairman of the board of directors of the Pioneer Pole & Shaft Company of Piqua and a review of his career will be found elsewhere in this work. Andrew G. Snyder was educated in the public schools of Piqua and at Culver Military Academy, Culver, Ind. After his graduation from that institution he was variously engaged until 1912, in which year he became associated with the Magee Brothers Printing Company as secretary and treasurer. After eight years with that concern, he resigned in 1920, and at present has his time fully occupied in looking after his various large and important investments. Mr. Snyder is well known in social circles of Piqua and belongs to several of the leading clubs. He has also interested himself in civic affairs as a public-spirited citizen, and gave of his abilities and means generously during the period of the great World war. He married Katherine, daughter of Edward Mason, of Piqua. They are members of the Presbyterian church.

Lester Robert Spencer. To the man of ordinary success the varied and substantial results achieved by Lester Robert Spencer seem out of all proportion to his brief tenure of life and in no wise remarkable advantages or opportunities. Richly endowed with the qualities of initiative and resource, concentration and enthusiasm, and with his native city of Piqua as the setting of his ambitions, he rose to high position in public confidence and service, and his death, which occurred November 7, 1919, was accounted a distinct loss to his community. Mr. Spencer was born at Piqua, Ohio, November 19, 1884, a son of M. G. and Mary Elizabeth (Mitchell) Spencer, the father being a dry goods merchant at Piqua, who was also for a number of years engaged in the grain and lumber business. There were two sons in the family: John M., who is identified with the Hobart Manufacturing Company, of Troy, Ohio, and Lester Robert. Lester R. Spencer attended the public schools of Piqua, and as a young man was connected with the Troy Carriage Sunshade Company, as a salesman, a capacity in which he achieved an immediate and distinctive success. Coming to Piqua, he entered the grain business in association with his uncle, Daniel Spencer, and that connection was maintained for some time, the firm conducting elevators in Miami county and the surrounding community. Retiring from that business in Novem-

ber, 1916, Mr. Spencer entered the service of the United States Department of Agriculture, in the grain department, and at various times thereafter was stationed at New York, Washington and Chicago. He was chosen by the Government as a "dollar-a-year" man, and the services which he rendered his country during the period of the great World war were valuable in the extreme. Later, Mr. Spencer became identified with the Troy Metal Products Company, located at Cincinnati, Ohio, which was engaged in making war appliances and was a subsidiary company of the Hobart Manufacturing Company. He was identified as one of the principal factors of this concern at the time of his death. He left hosts of friends in business official circles and among his fellow-members in Masonry, the Piqua Club and the Rotarians. He was a devout member of the Presbyterian church of Piqua of which he was a member of the board of trustees, and funeral services were conducted there, interment being made at Forest Hill Cemetery. Mr. Spencer was essentially a strong character, and, for a man of his years, had broad and varied experience and had achieved a notable success. November 22, 1911, Mr. Spencer married Catherine, daughter of C. W. and Jane (Light) DeArmon, and granddaughter of Joseph Light, the well-known and representative citizen of Dayton. C. W. DeArmon was an official of the Artificial Gas & Light Company, and he and his wife were the parents of four children: Eugene, Catherine, Rutherford and Elizabeth, of whom Eugene is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Spencer became the parents of one daughter, Jane Light, who was born in 1912, and who is now attending the public schools of Piqua.

Robert Dorwin Spencer, M. D., is a substantial and honorable practitioner of medicine at Piqua, where the family of which he is a member has been known long and favorably. He was born at Piqua, May 2, 1885, a son of Daniel and Helen (Dorwin) Spencer. His father was one of Piqua's prominent and influential business men and a director in the Piqua National Bank, and was likewise a supporter of all civic and philanthropic movements, being a liberal contributor to the Memorial Hospital. The only child of his parents, Robert D. Spencer received his early education in the graded and high schools of Piqua, following which he attended Wooster Academy for three years, furthered his preparation by a course at the University of Chicago, and then applied himself to his medical studies as a student at Rush Medical College, Chicago. Graduating in 1911, he was an interne in a hospital for approximately a year, and eventually settled down in 1913 to practice at Piqua, where he now occupies a well-appointed suite of offices in the Orr-Flesh building. He has been successful in attracting large and representative practice and is recognized in his profession as a man of ability, conservatism and high ethics. He belongs to the various medical bodies and his college fraternity. During the war period he allied himself with various local activities, subsequently joining the United States Army Medical Corps, with the rank of first lieutenant, and being stationed at the

Medical Officers Training School, Camp Greenleaf. He was medical examiner on the local draft board of Miami county previous to entering the army. Doctor Spencer married Grace, daughter of Arthur E. Clark, of Piqua, and they are the parents of one daughter, Helen Dorwin, who was born in 1917.

Conrad Winkelmänn, former manager of the sales department of the Favorite Stove & Range Company, is an honored business man of the formative period of Piqua's history. He is also one of those rugged characters, who having accomplished their good work, located at Piqua to participate in its growth in material and civic affairs. Mr. Winkelmänn was born in the city of Hann, Muenden, Germany, his father being a ship-owner who operated a fleet of boats on the Weser river. On emigrating to the United States Mr. Winkelmänn settled at Cincinnati, where for a time he engaged in a variety of mercantile pursuits, as well as becoming an expert bookkeeper. In 1888 he became associated with the Favorite Stove & Range Company, then at Cincinnati, and when the plant and offices of that concern were removed to Piqua he accompanied them. Later he was made manager of the sales department, a position in which he was largely instrumental in shaping the sales policy of the company, which is now one of the largest enterprises in the world of its kind, and a detailed history of which will be found in the industrial section of this work. Mr. Winkelmänn is now retired from active affairs and is living comfortably at his modern home at Piqua. He is a member of the Masons and also has numerous friends in business circles.

Samuel Zollinger. While eight years have passed since the demise of Samuel Zollinger, this sterling citizen of Piqua is still well remembered for his industry and achievements, and the beneficent effects of his ability are still noticeable in the concerns which were privileged to share his co-operation. Mr. Zollinger was born at Jackson, Ohio, in 1838, a son of John and Susannah (Whitmer) Zollinger, his father being engaged in the grocery business at Piqua. Samuel Zollinger was still a child when his parents removed to Piqua, in the public schools of which place he obtained his education. When he left school he became associated in business with his father, and at the time of the elder man's retirement and subsequent death, Samuel Zollinger and his brother, William, succeeded to the ownership of the retail grocery business, which in later years they extended to embrace the wholesale side of the business. This became a thriving concern under their management and is still one of the large and prosperous wholesale grocery firms of this part of the state. Mr. Zollinger did not confine his activities to the grocery business alone, but was interested in various other matters, and was vice president of the Citizens Bank of Piqua and a member of the firm operating the Cron-Kilns Company. He was prominent in Masonry and for thirty years was treasurer of the local Blue Lodge, being also for a long time treasurer of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church and a director of the local Young Men's Christian Association. He held

membership in the Piqua Club, and was the possessor of numerous friends in business and social circles. His death, which was sincerely mourned, occurred in 1912, the interment was made at Piqua. Mr. Zollinger was married in 1871, to Dora, daughter of Madison and Mary (Hustler) Dye, and a granddaughter of Stephen Dye, one of the real pioneers of Miami county. Madison Dye was engaged in the dry goods business at Troy in an early day. He and his wife were the parents of four children: Charles, William, Frank and Dora. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Zollinger: Susan, the wife of J. P. Spiker, an underwear manufacturer of Piqua; Mary, the wife of Frank McEwan, of New Jersey, and James, who is deceased. During the war period, Mrs. Zollinger took an active and prominent part in all activities attendant to the great struggle. Mr. Zollinger served in the Union Army.

Earl A. Yates, M. D. Among the well-known and successful medical specialists of Piqua, one who has met with much success in the treatment and cure of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat is Dr. Earl A. Yates. Doctor Yates was born at Conover, Miami county, Ohio, March 11, 1874, a son of Samuel S. and Phoebe A. (Shanks) Yates, natives of the same county, where they passed their lives, the father being a veteran of the war between the North and the South. There were six children in the family, namely: Alice J., who is married; Florence E., deceased; Mary A., married; Samuel F., engaged in business at Detroit; Clara B., who is married, and Earl A. Yates attended the graded school and high school at Conover and Lena and after his graduation became a student at the Ohio State University. He was graduated from the medical department with his degree of Doctor of Medicine, and began practice at Sidney, where he remained for seventeen years, acquiring a large clientele. Coming to Piqua in 1914, he has since been successful in building up a large professional business, in establishing himself thoroughly in public confidence and in placing himself high in the ranks of his calling and the estimation of his fellow-practitioners. He belongs to the various organizations of his profession, is a valued member of Temperance Lodge. at Sidney, and the Masonic fraternity, in which he has long held membership. When the United States entered the great World war, Doctor Yates began to give his support to the various war movements, and in the fall of 1918 entered the United States Medical Corps. He was sent to Camp Greene, North Carolina, where his entire service was passed, and received his honorable discharge in January, 1919. Doctor Yates married Martha B., daughter of Doctor H. B. Denman, a practicing physician of Lena, Ohio, and to this union there have been born two children: Ralph D., born in 1900, who is a student at Ohio State University, and Clara L., born in 1906, attending the graded schools at Piqua.

Charles Benjamin Herr, sheriff of Miami county and one of the substantial citizen-officials of Troy, was born at Tippecanoe City, Ohio, in 1861, a son of Benjamin and Margaret (James) Herr, and a grandson of Rudolph Herr, a native of Maryland. Benjamin

Herr was born in Maryland, but as a young man came to Ohio and for some years carried on milling as the owner of a mill of some pretensions in Miami county. When the struggle came on between the forces of the North and South, he entered the Union Army, was commissioned a captain, took brain fever, died, and was buried the day his company left for the South. He married Margaret James, who belonged to the well-known James family of Indiana, and they had four children: Mary, who became the wife of James H. Kinna; Rudolph, who is deceased; Mrs. Fannie Norton, and Charles Benjamin. Charles Benjamin Herr attended the graded and high schools of Miami county and a commercial school at Dayton, following which he learned the trade of miller in the enterprise of his uncle, John K. Herr. He continued to be engaged in milling and the grain business in Miami county for many years and in the meantime became interested in public and political affairs. Under Sheriff Louis Paul, he acted as deputy sheriff of the county, and subsequently filled a like position under Sheriff Barnett, whom he succeeded in office, being elected sheriff in 1918. He has made a good sheriff, preserving law and order and being untiringly conscientious in his tracking down of criminals. A man of spirit and courage, he has discharged his duties capably and has thoroughly won the confidence of the citizens who chose him for this responsible office. Sheriff Herr was married to Eva H., daughter of George W. Huffman, of Miami county, Ohio, and to this union there was born one daughter: Edna, who married Carl C. Moser, of Springfield, Ohio, and has one son, Charles B. During the war period, Mr. Herr was generous in his support of all measures. He is prominent fraternally, holding membership in the Masons, the Mystic Shrine, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Junior Order of United American Mechanics and the Eastern Star. Mr. Herr was again elected sheriff in the fall of 1920.

Clark E. Hetherington, M. D., one of the successful medical practitioners of Piqua, Ohio, was born in this city, January 2, 1879, a son of William and Lida E. (Wells) Hetherington. William Hetherington was also a native of Piqua, and was long numbered among the city's prominent business men, having been superintendent of the Piqua Handle Manufacturing Company. In his death, which occurred in Macon, Ga., in 1916, Piqua lost one who had contributed much toward the development of the city. To him and his wife were born Clifford, now the wife of Walter O'Kane, of Durham, N. H., who is a professor in the State Agricultural School of that state and also is State entomologist; Helen, who is secretary to Professor Detrick, superintendent of schools at Piqua; William W., who is associated with the Anchor Sawmills Company, of Memphis, Tenn.; Earl S., who is with the Sante Fe Railroad, in Jonesboro, Ark.; Wells is associated with the Williamson Heating Company, of Cincinnati, and Clark E., the subject of this biography. Clark E. Hetherington received his preliminary education in the Piqua public schools, after completing which he attended Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, where he took the

degrees of A. B. and A. M. Having decided to take up the medical profession as his life work, he next went to the Chicago Hahnemann Medical School, where he took the degree of M. D. in 1901. Convinced that his native city would afford him a profitable field for the practice of his profession, he came here immediately following his graduation from the medical school, and so gratifying has been the confidence shown in his evident ability that his clientele has grown with the years, until Doctor Hetherington is now accounted a successful man. He was married to Miss Clifford Kerns, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kerns, of Piqua. Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is examining physician for the Woodmen of the World and the Maccabees. During the recent war Doctor Hetherington did his full duty as a citizen, and gave unstintingly to all local war campaigns.

George W. Higgins, one of the highly esteemed business residents of Piqua, where he is a member of the drug firm of Hedges & Higgins, is a native of Shelby county, Ohio, and a son of J. G. and Elizabeth (Knox) Higgins. His education was secured in the rural schools of his native county and in 1893 he came to Piqua, where he secured employment in the drug store of A. H. Bates. Later he was with C. G. Piercey, from whose employ he went to that of P. I. Hedges. In 1904 he went to St. Mary's, Ohio, where he was identified with the same line of business until 1911, then returning to Piqua and acquiring an interest in the business of P. I. Hedges, the firm since having been known as Hedges & Higgins. This is one of the modern establishments of Piqua, carrying a full line of drugs, medicines, toilet articles, etc.; a feature of its business being the prescription department. Mr. Higgins is not only a good business man of known integrity and worth, but a citizen who has lent his public-spirited assistance to the furtherance of various beneficial enterprises. During the war period he served as a recruiting agent for the merchant marine service. He is active socially, being a member of the Piqua and Rotary clubs, and a consistent member of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church.

James C. Hilliard. For one of the most interesting landmarks and one of the oldest and most honored families of Spring Creek township, one should visit the farm of James C. Hilliard. There, at 417 Staunton street, on the old Troy road, is to be found an old stone house which has been in the family for three generations and is now 104 years old. It was erected by the grandfather of Mr. Hilliard, one of the sturdy pioneers of Miami county, who passed his life as a farmer in Spring Creek township and was a man of recognized worth and standing in his community. Here was born the son of the pioneer, as well as the grandson and great-grandson of the builder, all of whom have been identified honorably with the agricultural progress of the community. James C. Hilliard was born in this house, a son of James and Rosanna (Gill) Hilliard, and still resides therein. His entire life has been passed on the farm and at the present time he is the owner of 168

acres of valuable land, all under a high state of cultivation. In addition to the home, which is still in a good state of preservation, there are other buildings of substantial character, more modern in style, and good equipment and appurtenances for the carrying on of farming and stock raising under twentieth-century methods. Mr. Hilliard is a capable and intelligent farmer and a public-spirited citizen, and during the war period was an active supporter of all war movements, while Mrs. Hilliard was a willing Red Cross worker. Prior to her marriage, Mrs. Hilliard was Miss Josephine Lawrence, of Marysville, Union county.

C. C. Hobart. By reason of the importance and extent of his business connections, C. C. Hobart, president of the Hobart Brothers Company, is accounted one of the leading factors in the business life of Troy. He was born at Westford, Vt., in 1856, a son of Charles and Adelaide (Sabin) Hobart, and comes of English ancestry on the paternal side, while his maternal forebears were men of distinguished accomplishments and his grandfather Sabin was a minister of the Gospel, a member of the bench of New England and at one time congressman from Vermont. After attending the public schools of Fairfax, Vt., Mr. Hobart took a course in Colgate Academy, also in the University of New York, then going to the law school of the University of Chicago and likewise pursuing a law course at Iowa State University and was admitted to the bar in 1879. Returning to Vermont, he taught school for a time, as he did later at Middletown, Ohio, and at the latter place operated a paper mill, serving part of the time as bookkeeper and manager. Subsequently he operated the Central Light station at Middletown and was secretary and treasurer of the Parent Paper Company, and finally established the Hobart Company at Middletown, which was engaged in the manufacture of dynamos, motors, etc. The plant was later removed to Troy, where the business adopted the style of Hobart Manufacturing Company, and new lines were added, including electrically driven coffee mills, food choppers, etc. Eventually Mr. Hobart disposed of his interests in this concern and at present is giving a large share of his time to the presidential duties and development of the Hobart Brothers Company, founded by his sons, for the manufacture of motor generator sets and filing cabinets, a separate factory being maintained for each of these industries. Approximately 100 men are given employment in these plants and a thriving business is being developed rapidly along both lines. Mr. Hobart is a successful manufacturer, but has not allowed himself to be tied down by business duties, his broadness and superior education bringing him into close touch with many sides of life. He was active in all war movements during the war period and has always given generously of his time, ability and means in the furtherance of worthy civic enterprises. Mr. Hobart married Louise, daughter of Edward Jones, of Middletown, and they have three sons: Charles, Edward and William, who are interested in the Hobart Brothers Company. A complete history of this concern will be found in the industrial chapter of this work.

Arthur Benjamin Himes, one of the substantial business citizens of Covington, where he is proprietor of a leading jewelry establishment, was born at Covington, November 23, 1880, a son of Robert W. and Jennie L. (Ullery) Himes. Robert W. Himes was a lad when brought by his parents to Covington, where he was a member of the first graduating class of the Covington High School. Subsequently, he adopted the vocation of teaching, which he followed practically all of his life and became one of the most popular and efficient educators of this locality. He was a man who also took a prominent part in civic matters, being a member of the board of public affairs for some years and a member of the city council, and his honorable life and capable services made him respected and esteemed by all. He and his wife were the parents of six children, of whom four are living: Clara, the wife of D. C. Odell, of Springfield, Ill.; Miss Ruth, identified with the Buckeye State Mutual Fire Insurance Association, of Covington; Miss Alice, assistant cashier of the First National Bank, of West Milton, and Arthur Benjamin. Arthur B. Himes was educated in the public schools of Covington, and, having decided upon a career as a jeweler, pursued a course at the Bradley Horological School. On his return to Covington he began working in the jewelry store of his uncle, and in July, 1917, purchased the business, which he has conducted with ever-increasing success to the present time. Mr. Himes carries a complete line of jewelry, silverware, watches, etc., and maintains a skilled watch repairing department, and has won and held the patronage of the best people of Covington by his business promptness and rectitude and his unfailing affability. He has had some experience in public affairs, having served as corporation and township treasurer for several years, and is fraternally affiliated with the local lodge of Masonry. His public spirit has always been evident and was markedly so during the war period. Mr. Himes married Ione, daughter of Allen Reiber, of Pleasant Hill, who died August 7, 1915, and they had one son, Charles R., who is attending the public school. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Himes married, June 25, 1917, Anna, daughter of Cyrus and Priscilla Long, of West Milton. Both Mr. and Mrs. Himes are very popular at Covington, where they have numerous friends.

Dorsey Honeyman. One of the most prosperous and successful agriculturists of Miami county, Dorsey Honeyman is a representative of the best class of exponents of modern farming, and his splendid tract of 235 acres in Monroe township gives evidence of his good management and progressive tendencies. He has passed his entire life in this community, having been born on his father's farm in Monroe township, June 24, 1866, a son of Andy and Mary (Pearson) Honeyman. His parents were lifelong farming people here and enjoyed the respect and esteem of all with whom they were associated. Of their four children, two are living: Dorsey; and Esther, the wife of Albert McManus, now a resident of California. Dorsey Honeyman received a public school education in his youth and was reared to the vocation of farming, which he

adopted when he entered upon his independent career. Possessed of intelligence, ability and industry, he made rapid headway in his chosen calling, and his career has been one of continued advancement, characterized by his timely acceptance of such opportunities as have appeared. As he has prospered, he has added to his holdings from time to time, and now farms his entire 235 acres alone, save for the occasional assistance of his daughters. His improvements are modern in character and his buildings large, well-equipped and attractive. Mr. Honeyman is primarily a general farmer, but also raises some live stock, and has been equally successful in both departments of his work. He married, March 31, 1887, Anna, daughter of John and Sophia E. (Keller) Stockslager, well-known farming people of Union township, Miami county. To Mr. and Mrs. Honeyman there have been born five children: Guy C., who has a position under the United States Government, at Dayton; Bertha, who died in infancy, and Ethel, Dessie Ellen and Clara Golden, who reside with their parents. While Mr. Honeyman has not sought public or political preferment, he has been at all times a good citizen and a supporter of worthy movements, both in times of war and peace. His business integrity is unquestioned and he has numerous friends in Monroe township of long standing and established sincerity.

Willis R. Honeyman. Miami county is indebted for some of its best citizenship to the emigrants from Virginia, who have contributed materially to the agricultural development of this region. From this eastern community of settled conditions and ideals have journeyed many whose names stand for sterling worth in the Miami valley and among them none are more typical than the Honeyman family, a worthy representative of which is found in Willis R. Honeyman, of Monroe township. Mr. Honeyman was born December 11, 1865, in this township, a son of Eli and Annie (Miller) Honeyman, natives of the same county, and a grandson of an early settler from Virginia. The parents passed their entire lives in agricultural pursuits in this county, where both were held in the highest esteem. They had seven children, of whom only two are living: Willis R., and Oliver, who is now living retired at Dayton after many years of agricultural activities, having sold his share in the home estate to this brother. Willis R. Honeyman acquired his education in the public schools after leaving which he began farming on the home place, and after the death of his parents obtained a share of the home place. Later he bought the interest of his brother, and at this time is farming 118 acres, all in a high state of cultivation and with excellent improvements. Mr. Honeyman is a farmer and stock raiser of intelligence, experience and capability, a business man with an excellent reputation for soundness and integrity, and a citizen who has supported all worthy movements both in times of peace and war. He married, November 3, 1886, Hattie Cordelia, daughter of Philip and Mary (Schrader) Vance, of Troy, and to this union there have been born six children: Bertha, the wife of Harvey Gray, of Tippecanoe City, and Robert, John,

Albert, Glenn and Roy at home. During the recent war period, Robert and Albert were particularly active in the sale of war savings stamps, and the other members of the family also did their share in the various movements. Mr. Honeyman is a member of the Knights of Pythias.

Thomas E. Hook, superintendent of schools at Troy, Ohio, has brought to his labors a natural aptitude for his work, a splendid enthusiasm and an unfailing store of energy that have combined to make him one of the most popular and most result-attaining men who have ever occupied this office. He is a native of Holmes county, Ohio, born in 1880, a son of B. F. and Rosetta (Watson) Hook, and a grandson on the maternal side of a Union soldier of the Civil war. His father was a merchant in Holmes county and the early education of the youth was acquired at Holmesville, following which he attended Ohio Northern College at Ada, at intervals from 1903 to 1908. He was graduated in the latter year, in civil engineering, and since that time has attended the Ohio State University and Miami University, during the summer sessions of 1913 and 1914, and has also specialized in school administration work at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, from which institution he has secured the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts. Likewise Mr. Hook has worked on land survey and spent two years in Government geological survey in southeastern Ohio and western Pennsylvania. Mr. Hook began teaching school in Holmes county, where he was thus engaged for six years, being superintendent of schools at Versailles for three years and principal of the Versailles schools two years. He next was elected principal of the high school for two years and superintendent of schools at South Haven, Mich., for three years, following which he came to Troy, in 1919, succeeding Mr. Cookson as superintendent of schools. Mr. Hook possesses pronounced ideas in regard to school curriculum and has introduced a number of innovations since assuming the duties of his present position, included among them, courses in public speaking, community civics, occupational training and musical programs. He has fostered the latter in raising funds for special equipment, and these have met with decided success, the junior high school program netting \$265, another musical program \$380 and the high school minstrels \$425. The art exhibit realized \$300 and the proceeds of this were expended in securing suitable pictures for the schools. The proceeds of the other entertainments have been used in securing special equipment for the schools not regularly provided for, among these being a Brunswick phonograph and records, teachers' reference library, playground apparatus, etc. Three effective parent-teachers' associations were organized in the fall of 1920 that have proved to be decided assets to the welfare of the school and the children in securing greater co-operative work from the parents and the teachers. A complete and thorough medical inspection of all pupils in the elementary grades and high school was urged by him and approved by the board of education. This work was carried out by a very competent woman physician

from Cincinnati with the hearty assistance of the local physicians. It is also the ambition of Mr. Hook to equip thoroughly all playgrounds with apparatus and to introduce educational moving pictures in the schools, having a distinctive program each week. His work has proven decidedly popular with school authorities, public officials, parents and pupils and has done much to elevate the educational standard at Troy. Mr. Hook is a member of the National Educational Association and is a Mason. During the war period, while a resident of South Haven, Mich., he was a member of the war board as well as of all committees which embraced the work of schools in war activities. Mr. Hook married Miss Bess Roop, of Versailles, a graduate (1908) of Ohio Wesleyan University and formerly a popular school teacher of Versailles. They are the parents of one child, Robert Thomas.

Vernett Hufford. Among the enterprising business men of Troy, one who is making a success of his operations because of his industry and thorough understanding of his business is Vernett Hufford, a partner in the automobile garage business of Hufford Brothers. Mr. Hufford was born at New Lexington, Perry county, Ohio, a son of F. F. and Athlinda (Hill) Hufford, and received his education in the public schools. As a young man he went to the State of Oregon, where he followed the trade of blacksmith, which he had learned in his youth, and this led to his taking up the business of automobile repairing. After spending fourteen years on the Pacific coast, he returned to Ohio, with his brother, George, who had also been in Oregon, and they formed the firm of Hufford Brothers and opened their present garage at No. 13 West Water street, Troy. They have built up a paying business, and their good workmanship and honorable dealing have caused them to make many friends and to attract steady custom. George and Vernett Hufford are men of sound standing in their community and, during peace and war times, have fulfilled their full obligations as good citizens. Another brother, Joseph, saw service during the war. Mrs. Vernett Hufford was formerly Miss Catherine Alexander.

C. M. Hunt. Among the prominent citizens of Troy, one who during a long and successful career was identified with various lines of enterprise is C. M. Hunt. Mr. Hunt was born in Darke county, Ohio, in 1868, a son of Ralph and Lydia (Walker) Hunt, his father being a well-known agriculturist and influential citizen of Darke county, where he served as a justice of the peace for many years. C. M. Hunt received a country school education in Darke county and was brought up as a farmer's son. His boyhood and youth were devoted to the pursuits of the soil and for several years after attaining manhood he continued to be engaged in farming, later removing to Laura, Ohio, where he applied himself to the restaurant and butcher business. From Laura, Mr. Hunt went to Xenia, this State, where he embarked in the hardware business, but in 1905 disposed of his interests there and came to Troy, here founding an implement and hardware business, which he conducted with much success for ten years. During this time he was elected



C. M. HUNT'S FAMILY AND RELATIVES



a member of the board of Miami county commissioners, on which he served creditably for four years, and after leaving office established the Melodia Company, for the manufacture of phonographs. Subsequently he disposed of his holdings therein to his son, Hiram Hunt, and W. R. Hudson, and retired from active business affairs. Mr. Hunt was known during his active years as a shrewd, energetic and capable business man, of sound practicality and unquestioned integrity. During the World war period he was active in all local war movements, and at all times has been known as a public-spirited citizen and supporter of worthy enterprises. He is prominent fraternally, belonging to the Masons, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Knights of Pythias and Improved Order of Red Men, in all of which orders he has numerous friends. Mr. Hunt married Elvira, daughter of John Wright, of Darke county, and they have had five children: Myrtle, who married Earl McDonald, and they are the parents of four children, Katherine, deceased, Juanita, Charles Joseph and Gladys M.; Hiram W., who married Blanche Brady, and has one son, Richard E.; Harry, who married Florence Wooley, and Harry, who married Helen Deihl, and they have four children, Charles J., Bobby R., Louis B., and Betty Joan. Mrs. Hunt's father was a farmer of Darke county, where he lived his whole life. He married Susan Penny, of the same county, and both are now deceased. To their union had been born eight children, in order of birth as follows: Mary E.; Calvin, deceased; John W., Susanna, deceased; Martha A.; Elvira (Mrs. Hunt); Arren E.; Elna, also deceased. All surviving live in Ohio, except Arren E., who lives in New York.

J. M. Huntsberger. With the exception of two years, when he was employed as a salesman, J. M. Huntsberger has spent his entire life in connection with agricultural pursuits in Miami county, and at the present time is the owner of a well-cultivated property consisting of 118 acres located in Monroe township. Mr. Huntsberger was born in Newton township, Miami county, September 6, 1882, a son of Jacob and Annabelle (Cappock) Huntsberger, his parents having been lifelong residents of this county, where they won a gratifying success through industry, and gained and held the respect and esteem of those among whom their home was made. Jacob Huntsberger died when his son was five weeks of age. Mrs. Huntsberger later married John Gray. By the first union there were three children, one who died in infancy; Alma, who is the wife of Lyman Ebersole, a grocer of Pleasant Hill, and J. M. By the second union there were two children: Ethel, the wife of James Snell, a grocer of Fidelity, Ohio, and one who died in infancy. J. M. Huntsberger acquired his education through attendance at the local public schools in Newton township, and as a youth began to apply himself to farming. Later he turned his attention temporarily to mercantile pursuits, and for two years was employed as a salesman, but eventually turned his attention to farming, and in 1917 settled on his present property, a highly improved tract of 118 acres. Here he has so directed his activities as to become known as one of the

progressive and enterprising agriculturists of his community. Mr. Huntsberger has given his support to all worthy civic movements and extended his co-operation to include national activities during the period of the war. February 18, 1905, he married Edna, daughter of John and Harriett Rebecca (Miller) Wheelock, of West Milton, and she and her husband are the parents of seven children: Frank, Erla, Carl, Jean, Helen, Max and Dorothea. The family attends the Christian church.

V. W. Hunt, D. D. S., a successful dental practitioner of Piqua, Ohio, was born at St. Paris, Champaign county, Ohio, a son of Dr. H. B. and Mary (Leedon) Hunt. The father has been a practicing physician for many years, his offices being located at St. Paris, where is also situated the family home. V. W. Hunt attended the graded and high schools of St. Paris for his preparatory education, following which he pursued a course at the Cincinnati College of Dentistry, from which institution he received his degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery. He came to Piqua in 1909, and at this time occupies a suite of offices in the Orr-Flesh Building. In 1909 Doctor Hunt married Miss Lotta Neilson, whose two brothers, Earl and Cornelius Neilson, were in the United States service during the great war, Earl serving as a first lieutenant in the army and Cornelius being a naval officer. Two children have been born to Doctor and Mrs. Hunt, namely: Mary Jane and Catherine. Doctor and Mrs. Hunt were active in the Government's and other war movements during the period of the great struggle in Europe. Doctor Hunt is a member of the Piqua Golf Club and the Piqua Club, and is also a Mason.

Claude M. Kemper, D. D. S. While still one of the younger members of the dental profession of Miami county, Dr. Claude M. Kemper, of Tippecanoe City, has had wide and varied experience, including the valuable training to be secured as a member of the United States Army dental corps with service in foreign lands. Doctor Kemper was born at Freemansburg, W. Va., August 11, 1894, a son of A. H. and Rebecca (Musser) Kemper, and comes of an agricultural family, his father still being a farmer in the vicinity of the place of his birth and one of his community's highly respected citizens. One of a family of thirteen children, Claude M. Kemper secured his primary education in the public schools of West Virginia, and after due preparation entered the Ohio Dental College, Cincinnati. Graduated in 1916, with the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery, he was admitted to practice and began his professional career as an associate of his brother, Dr. R. K. Kemper, at Germantown, Ohio. He was making rapid progress in his calling when the United States entered the World war and interrupted his career as it did the careers of so many young men, and in 1917 he entered the United States Army dental corps, securing a lieutenant's commission. He was assigned to the Three Hundred and Twenty-ninth Infantry at Camp Sherman and went overseas with this contingent December 26, 1917, being stationed at Camp Hospital No. 33, Brest, France. There he remained for about sixteen months, finally



DR. C. M. KEMPER



returning to his native land May 29, 1919, and subsequently receiving his honorable discharge as captain. Shortly after his return, Doctor Kemper took up his residence and centered his professional activities at Tippecanoe City, where he has since been located and where he has built up a large and remunerative practice. He is recognized as one of the rising young dental practitioners of Miami county and has already placed himself high in the confidence of his patients and is making a recognized place for himself among his fellow-practitioners. Doctor Kemper belongs to the Miami County Dental Society and the Ohio State Dental Society, as well as the dental fraternity of Psi Omega. He likewise holds membership in the local Blue lodge of the Masonic order, is a member of the Scottish Rite and order of the Shrine. Doctor Kemper married Zenna Agnes, daughter of J. L. Bailey, a farmer of Freemansburg, W. Va. There were six children in this family, of which Mrs. Kemper is third in the order of birth.

Ira Jackson. The distinction of being the most successful breeder of swine in Miami county undoubtedly rests with Ira Jackson, of Monroe township, whose accomplishments in this field of activity have gained him a reputation extending far beyond the limits of his county. Like many other specialists in this region he has not confined his efforts to this line, as he is also a leading farmer, but in his special field he has won his greatest success. Mr. Jackson is a native of Miami county, born January 28, 1867, a son of Jesse L. and Katherine (Smith) Jackson. His father, a native of Pennsylvania, came to Miami county in young manhood and followed farming throughout his life, winning material success and the respect and confidence of the people of his community. One of a family of eleven children, Ira Jackson was reared on the home farm and early began to take an interest in stock raising, paying particular attention to hogs. After obtaining a public school education he entered actively into agricultural work, and in 1907 settled on his present farm, a splendid tract of 400 acres, on which he has recently erected a modern home, attractive in appearance and commodious in size. The improvements on the farm are such as to impress the observer with the progressive spirit and good management of the owner. For a number of years Mr. Jackson has made a careful study of breeding swine and his animals always bring top prices in the markets. He has also conducted annual sales on his farm, and at a recent sale secured what is supposed to be the highest price ever obtained for a single hog. He has also been an exhibitor at various fairs and expositions, where the stock from the Jackson farm has taken numerous prizes. Primarily a farmer and stock raiser, his private interests have been of a nature to demand the greater part of his attention, but he has not failed in the duties of citizenship, and during the World war was a most generous contributor to the various drives, including the War Chest of Miami county, and especially directed his efforts in behalf of the financial support of the Salvation Army. Mr. Jackson also served efficiently as a member of the board of Miami county commissioners for two

terms, rendering his county and his community excellent and conscientious service. He is treasurer of the Jersey Hog Record Association, and his own record as a breeder of swine will be found in the Miami county section of this work devoted to such matters. Mr. Jackson married Minnie, daughter of George Eidemiller, of Miami county.

Harry C. Jeffery, president of the Cron Manufacturing Company, and a leading and influential citizen of Piqua, was born at Pittsburg, Pa., August 31, 1874, a son of Charles and Eleanor (McGill) Jeffery.

Charles W. Jensen, one of the leading business men of Tippecanoe City, where he is engaged in contracting, was born in this city, in 1874, a son of N. A. and Dorothy (Duce) Jensen. His father, a native of Denmark, immigrated in young manhood to the United States, settling first in Cincinnati and coming later to Miami county, where he rounded out a long and honorable career. Of the seven children in the family, five are living. Charles W. Jensen was educated in the public schools of Tippecanoe City and as a youth learned the trade of carpenter. After working at his trade for some years and gaining the needed experience and self-reliance, he developed into a contractor, a business in which he has met with well-merited success. He has erected many of the leading structures here, including the Citizens National Bank building, the Timmer Building and the Superior Underwear Company's plant, and his skilled workmanship and fidelity to agreements have served to make his name one honored in business circles and to give him the confidence of those with whom he has been associated. Mr. Jensen has also been prominent in public affairs, having served two years as a member of the board of Miami county commissioners, and one term as a member of the Tippecanoe city council, where he rendered constructive service. He likewise conducts an extensive coal business and has a number of important civic and social connections. During the time that the United States was engaged in the World war he gave freely and cheerfully to all movements promulgated for the success of American arms, and in his home locality has been a substantial supporter of worthy enterprises. Mr. Jensen married Elizabeth, daughter of L. H. Westfall, and to this union there have been born two sons: Franklin, a student at Oxford College, and Edward, attending the public schools.

Brooks J. Johnson, whose long and capable service as clerk of the common pleas and district appellate courts of Miami county has been such as to merit the greatest confidence of the members of the county bar and the public at large, was born at Troy, Ohio, August 14, 1878, a son of Alonzo and Mattie (Bowers) Johnson, and a grandson of Dr. J. Bowers, one of the pioneer physicians of Miami county. The only child of his parents, Brooks J. Johnson secured his education in the public schools of Troy, after leaving which he applied himself to learning the trade of telegrapher. For some time thereafter he worked as a telegrapher at various points throughout the country, engaged in railroad and commercial telegraph-

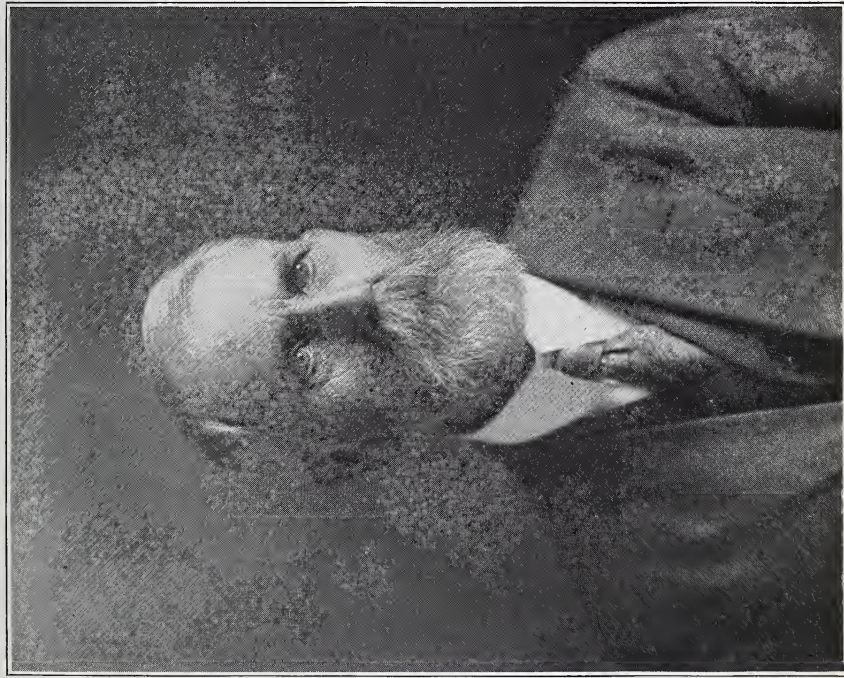
raphy, and in 1904, while serving as an operator for the Postal Telegraph Company, was made chief deputy to the clerk of the courts. In 1909 he was appointed chief deputy under Sheriff R. N. Gibson and served as chief deputy sheriff during his administration and that of Sheriff Louis Paul. In 1912 Mr. Johnson was elected to his present position, now serving his forth term therein. So firmly has he established himself in the confidence and good-will of the members of the bar, that on several occasions prior to his re-elections he has been petitioned by them to continue in office if elected. A man who assumed the duties of office as a public responsibility, he gives of the best of himself in their discharge and his public record is one of splendid efficiency and unwavering fidelity. Mr. Johnson is also a well-known fraternalist, being past exalted ruler of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, past president of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, and a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America. During the war period he was Miami county explosives agent for the United States Government, and was also active in the war movements of the Young Men's Christian Association, the American Red Cross and the Miami County War Chest. He married Daisy, daughter of Charles Marshall, of Troy, and they have two children: Persis M. and James.

Jones-Washburn Motor Company. Among the ambitious young business concerns of Piqua, one which has made rapid strides forward since its inception in 1916 is the Jones-Washburn Motor Company, the proprietors of which are Victor R. Washburn and John Edward Jones. This company has recently completed new quarters, erected on Ash street, and this is perhaps the best service station and display room to be found in the community. Victor R. Washburn was born at Celina, Ohio, December 20, 1890, a son of James M. and Elizabeth (Kreusch) Washburn. One of his parents' four children, he was educated at Notre Dame University, South Bend, Ind., and after his graduation therefrom became associated with his father in a retail business. Subsequently he was a retail automobile salesman, and in 1916 came to Piqua, where he became associated in business with Mr. Jones. Mr. Washburn has an honorable army record, having served seven months at San Antonio, Tex., as a member of the Motor Transport corps during the World war. He is a young business man of ambition, energy and resource, and has made an excellent impression upon the public and upon those with whom he has come into contact in the course of business transactions. John Edward Jones was born at Columbus, Ohio, November 16, 1892, a son of Edward M. and Emma (White) Jones, and a brother of Robert W. Jones. After graduating from the Columbus High School, he was variously employed until 1912, when he received his introduction to the automobile business in his native city. In 1916 he came to Piqua, where he became associated with Mr. Washburn in the founding and subsequent development of the Jones-Washburn Motor Company, this concern being agents here for the Dodge automobile. Mr. Jones

was in the United States Army for twenty months, during twelve months of which time he was overseas, and saw active service on the Meuse-Argonne front during the great World war. Like his partner, he is a young man of marked ability and fertility of resource, and has established himself firmly in the confidence and respect of the business men of the city of his adoption.

Dr. Jacob Kendell, one of the old and honored citizens of Covington, where he is cashier of the Stillwater Valley Bank, was born on a farm in Newton township, Miami county, November 16, 1847, a son of Benjamin and Mary (Boggs) Kendell. The Kendell family originated in Maryland, while the Boggs family had its origin in Virginia and both have been residents of the Miami valley for many years. Benjamin Kendell, who served as a soldier during the Mexican war, followed milling throughout his life in Miami county and was a man who well merited the high esteem in which he was universally held. He and his wife were the parents of three children: Jacob, Ezekiel and Oliver H. P. Jacob Kendell attended the public schools of Miami county, following which he began the study of medicine at the Ohio Medical College. He was graduated from that institution with his degree in 1869, and for nearly forty years practiced his profession at Covington, where he rose to a high place in his calling and in the confidence and respect of the people of the community in which he ministered to the ills of his fellow-men. A number of years ago he had become interested in the Stillwater Valley Bank, of which he eventually became president, but in 1908, when he gave up his professional labors, he entered actively upon the duties of cashier of this institution, a position which he has since filled with honor and ability. Doctor Kendell took an energetic part in the various war activities and was a member and active worker of all the local committees. During his career he has acted constructively and efficiently as a member of the school board and the city council. He is fraternally affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, of which he has been a member for many years. Doctor Kendell married Sarah, daughter of Joseph Brump, of Tiptecanoe City, Ohio, and they have been the parents of two sons, both physicians: Dr. B. J., now deceased, who formerly practiced at Tiptecanoe City, and Dr. H. W., a skilled physician of Covington.

Abraham Kahn, manufacturer and exporter of farm tools and handles, and one of the leading and highly esteemed business citizens of Piqua, Ohio, was born at his father's home in Alsace-Lorraine, in 1846. As a youth he was given splendid educational advantages, as his father was a man of some means, and during his rearing he mastered several languages. At the time he reached his majority, in 1869, he decided to seek his fortune on his own account, and accordingly immigrated to the United States and first located at Wapakoneta, Ohio, where he established himself in a dry goods business in a small way. This he developed into a paying business, but later found a better field for his abilities in the manufacture of farming tools and handles, and for the carrying on of such a busi-



DR. AND MRS. JACOB KENZELL



ness established a factory at Wapakoneta. Under his progressive methods, he soon developed this enterprise to large proportions, and came to Piqua, where he founded his interests, although still retaining his holdings at Wapakoneta. At Piqua he is manager of the United States Handle Company, an exporting agency, which does business with leading concerns all over the world. Mr. Kahn is still active and alert, and goes around his daily routine of duties with the clear mind and active step of a man who had led a clean, active and healthful life. He has the confidence of his associates and his standing in the business world is that of a level-headed, clear-sighted man of affairs, of the highest integrity and strictest probity. A man of broad and practical philanthropy, he is secretary of the Associated Charities of Piqua, and president of the Jewish congregation. He is favorably known also in social circles and is president of the Piqua Club. Mr. Kahn married Rosa Friedlich and to this union there have been born two children: Forest E. and Mabel.

Charles Karns. Among the farmers of Miami county the results of whose operations render a good account of their skilled husbandry, one who is entitled to mention is Charles Karns, a progressive tiller of the soil of Bethel township. Mr. Karns has passed his entire life in this community, having been born on a farm in this township, in 1883, a son of J. C. and Phoebe (Studebaker) Karns. The parents of Mr. Karns, natives of Ohio, passed their careers in this county amid the peaceful pursuits of farming and through good citizenship, and a display of qualities of kindness, consideration and neighborliness won the regard and affectionate confidence of those among whom their lives were spent. The boyhood of Charles Karns resembled that of other youths of his day and locality, his education being acquired in the public schools of Bethel township and his summers being passed in assisting his father on the home place. He likewise had the benefits of attendance at a school at Juniata, Pa., after leaving which he commenced farming again on the home place, the old Karns homestead, on which he still resides. He is a careful and thorough farmer and his labors have been attended with gratifying results. During the World war period Mr. Karns was at the head of the war chest campaign in his township and was also an active Liberty Loan worker. He married Mary, daughter of Solomon and Lovina (Snyder) Hershberger, and a sister of John Hershberger, who saw overseas service with the American Army during the World war. They are the parents of one son, Willis.

B. F. Kendig. Among the well-known farmers of Monroe township whose careers have been especially remarkable for enterprise, perseverance and tenacity of purpose, and who have advanced themselves from modest beginnings to conditions of substantial prosperity, is B. F. Kendig, who has resided on his present farm for a period of forty-five years. Mr. Kendig was born in Monroe township August 29, 1854, a son of Benjamin and Eleanor (Perry) Kendig. His parents, early residents of this locality, both passed away when our subject was eleven years of age. They had two

children: B. F., and Elizabeth, who is deceased. B. F. Kendig received the usual common school education in the rural districts and until he reached his majority, had a guardian, and worked as a farmhand. At the age of twenty-one years he commenced farming ventures on his own account, and for forty-five years has been the occupant of his present farm, a highly fertile and productive property, with a comfortable residence located on Tippecanoe City R. F. D. No. 3. Mr. Kendig has been a public-spirited citizen and has given his unqualified support to all worthy measures both in times of war and in peace. He married, April 6, 1879, Sarah, daughter of Solomon and Emely (Yount) Smith, agricultural people of Miami county, who resided in Monroe township until their death. He was one of the prominent and influential farmers of Miami county. There were twelve children in the family, of whom six are living, and to this union there have been born four children: Emma, the wife of Irvin Furlong, and they live near West Milton and have one son, Kenneth; Anna, the wife of Ira Beegley, and they live west of Dayton; Leona, the wife of Charles Campbell, and they reside in Dayton, Ohio, and have three children: Kendig, Byron and Martha Ellen, and Independence, single and living at home.

Raymond A. Kerr, prosecuting attorney of Miami county, and one of the leading younger members of the State bar, was born at Tippecanoe City, Ohio, November 10, 1880, a son of Ellis and Etta (Tenney) Kerr. Mr. Kerr probably owes at least a part of his ability in the law to inheritance, as his father was one of Miami county's prominent attorneys and a graduate of the Cincinnati Law School. There were three children in the family: Raymond A.; Loran A., a successful realtor of Southern California, and Vera K., the wife of R. W. Kessler, commander in the United States Navy, who saw service during the World war in convoying transports. Raymond A. Kerr attended the public schools of his native place, following which he took a course at Ohio Wesleyan University, from which he received his Bachelor of Arts degree. His law studies were prosecuted at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, which conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws, and in June, 1905, he commenced practice at Tippecanoe City. In November, 1916, he was elected prosecutor of Miami county, and the splendid manner in which he conducted the affairs of his office in his first term led to his re-election in 1918. He is a Mason and Odd Fellow, belongs to the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, and maintains membership in the Methodist church. Mr. Kerr married Myra W., daughter of W. H. Wehrly, district superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal church, Cincinnati district. To this union there have been born two children: Ellis Wehrly and Robert.

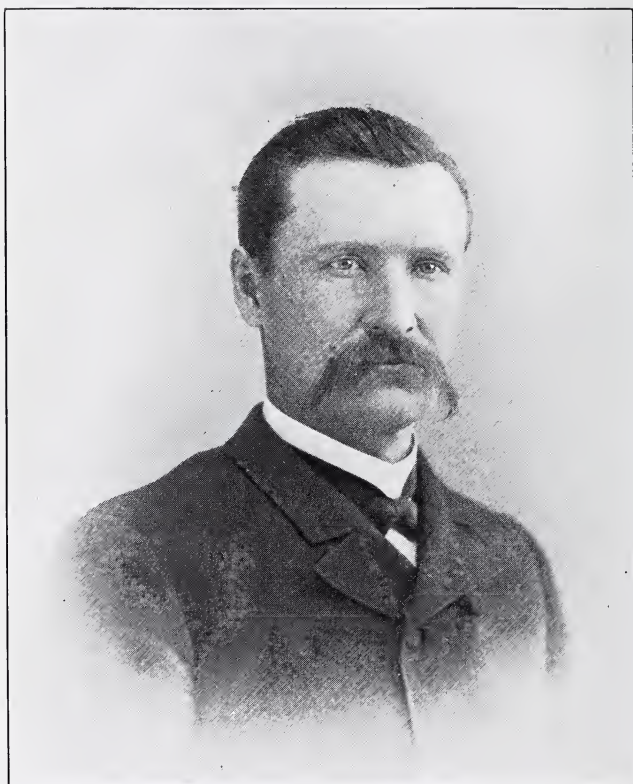
Wirt Kessler, secretary of the Milton Loan and Savings Association, of West Milton, was born in Union township, Miami county, a son of William and Mary (Albaugh) Kessler. He secured a good public school education and as a youth taught school in Union township, as well as in Darke county, and for some years assisted his father in his farming operations. Coming then to West

Milton, he became associated with his brother, W. S. Kessler, in the practice of law, and in 1910 became secretary of the Milton Loan and Savings Association, a position which he has held to the present time. While he has occupied this position the association has enjoyed great prosperity and its affairs have shown a consistent and healthy growth. Mr. Kessler has been prominent also in public matters, being a former mayor of West Milton and a former clerk of Union township. He was also postmaster of West Milton for thirteen years, and his entire public record is an enviable one, well worthy of emulation. During the World war period he was chairman for Union township of all the loan drives and was active in the movement resulting in the accumulation of the Miami County War Chest. Mr. Kessler married Harriet, daughter of John and Mary (Faulkner) Cornor, of Miami county, and to this union there have been born four children: Maud, who married A. S. Swank; Estella, who married William Keck; Clarence R., who married Edna Cassel, and Maurice, who married Corinne Brown. Mr. Kessler is recognized as an able business man, a capable financier and an excellent judge of land and property values, and his standing is that of a man of sound integrity who has merited public confidence because of the straightforward character of his dealings. His good citizenship has never been questioned and no movement for the betterment of the community is considered complete until it has his support. He is prominent as a fraternalist, being a Knight Templar Mason and Shriner, and a member of the Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in all of which orders he has numerous friends.

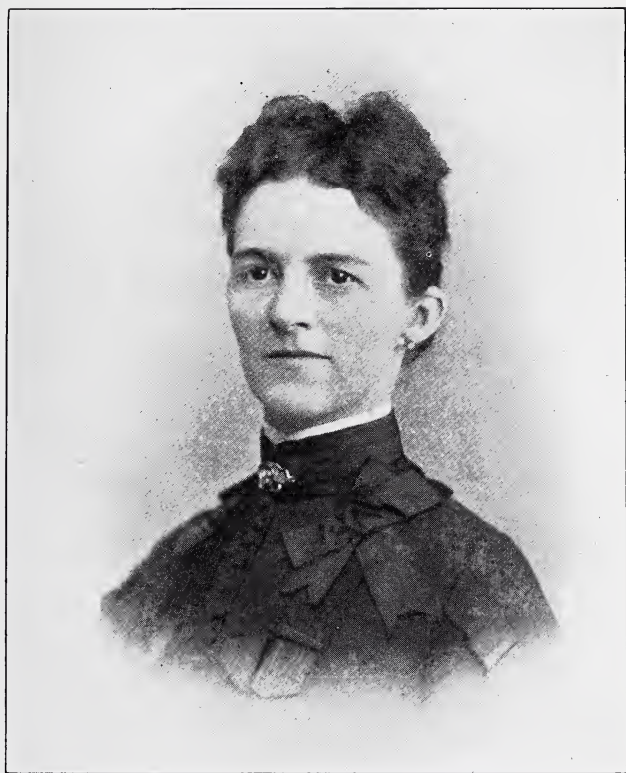
George W. Kight has been a resident of Miami county since 1880 and both Bethel and Elizabeth townships have benefited by his industry and resourcefulness as an agriculturist and his services as a citizen. He was born in Monongahela county, W. Va., May 28, 1860, a son of George W. and Hattie (Koontz) Kight. His father, a farmer in early life, enlisted in the Union Army during the war between the States and saw much service under the greatly-beloved "Little General," George B. McClellan. At the close of his military service he resumed farming, and in 1883 came to Ohio and settled in Clark county, near New Carlisle, where he rounded out a long and honorable career as an agriculturist. He was a man greatly respected in his community and was a worthy representative of the best type of men engaged in his calling. George W. Kight, the younger, was given a public school education in his native county, and at the age of twenty years left the parental roof and came to Miami county, where for a number of years he followed farming in Bethel township. Eventually he came to Elizabeth township, where he has since developed a handsome property, on which he carries on general farming and stock raising. Mr. Kight married, January 13, 1886, Sarah, daughter of Charles and Anna (Works) Hales, of New Carlisle, and to this union there have been born five children: Anna, now the wife of Marvin G. Benson, of Dayton, Ohio; Mary E., the wife of Charles Grady, who resides

in Dayton, Ohio; Harold, Helen and Virginia. Mr. Kight's nephews, Earl and Harry Hess, saw service in the United States Army during the World war period, the former being called overseas and being in action in a number of battles. The family attends the Methodist church.

J. A. Kerr, of Tippecanoe City, one of the leading corporation lawyers of Miami county, was born at Chambersburg, Montgomery county, Ohio, July 7, 1853, a son of J. T. and Matilda B. (Westlake) Kerr. The latter was a daughter of Col. Josiah and Sallie (Williams) Westlake, Sallie Williams being a daughter of George and Polly (Hill) Williams, while Polly Hill was a daughter of Henry Hill, one of the earliest pioneers of this part of the Miami Valley and a member of the first conference of the Christian church, which was held at his home on Pleasant Hill, in 1819. Col. Josiah Westlake was a volunteer in the Mexican war and rose to a colonelcy in that conflict. He later became a leader in the Democratic party in his locality, and was likewise prominent in Civil war activities. Both the Williams and Hill families originated in Maryland. J. T. Kerr was a son of James Kerr, who was born near Marietta, Ohio, his mother being Sallie, daughter of Jonathan Thompson. During the early days she was taken prisoner by the Indians near Fort Meigs and held a prisoner for two years, although finally returned to the whites at Fort Johnson, near Piqua, Ohio. She had been carried captive by Indians from Canada in 1812. James Kerr was a son of George Kerr, who came from Virginia, his mother being Patty Newell, who was descended on her mother's side from the distinguished Hamilton family. Newell Kerr, a relation of J. A. Kerr, was a captain in the Union Army during the Civil war, and one of the first United States senators from Ohio bore the family name. J. T. Kerr, father of J. A. Kerr, was a volunteer during the Mexican war, and was a school teacher by vocation, as had been his father-in-law, Col. Josiah Westlake, who was one of the first educators in Miami county. To the parents of J. A. Kerr there were born the following children: James M., a prominent attorney of California, widely known as an author of legal works, among them "Kerr's Pocket Codes of California," "American and English Encyclopedia of Law," "Kerr's Real Property," "American Edition of Benjamin on Sales," "Kerr on Homicide," "American and English Railway Cases," "Water Rights and Mining," etc., whose son, Noel Kerr, was a soldier of the American Expeditionary Forces during the World war and met a hero's death on the battlefield of the Argonne; Ellis H., a graduate of Cincinnati Law School, formerly mayor and a well-known attorney of Tippecanoe City, who married Esther Tenney, and had three children, Loren A., of South Carolina; Raymond A., prosecuting attorney of Miami county, and Vera, the wife of Rob Kessler; John, deceased; Owen, who fought as a soldier during the Spanish-American war, later a farmer of Miami county and business man of Tippecanoe City, who married Salome Miller; Clara, who married J. A., son of Joseph Connery, and removed to Montana and afterward to Los Angeles, Calif.,



J. A. KERR



MRS. J. A. KERR

where she died in 1914, and J. A. J. A. Kerr was educated in the public schools of Miami county and a normal school, following which he enrolled as a student of the law department of the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, where he was graduated in law and civil engineering in 1871. He taught school and practiced his profession in conjunction for two years, but his law practice soon became so large as to need all his attention. In 1874 he became delegate to the Democratic congressional convention, and in 1884, was elected city solicitor of Tippecanoe City. Mr. Kerr is known as a thorough, capable and learned lawyer, particularly in the field of corporation law, in which he has a large and important clientele. He is attorney for the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Company, which carries \$21,000,000 insurance on 7,000 members, and which has had but one lawsuit since its inception in 1877, when Mr. Kerr became its attorney. He belongs to the various organizations of his profession, and has numerous civic, business and social connections. During the war period he was active in all movements, and served capably as a four-minute speaker and in other capacities. Mr. Kerr married Elizabeth J., daughter of Lemuel F. and Rosanna (Pierson) Coates, and a granddaughter of Henry and Jane (Fincher) Coates. Rosanna Pierson was a daughter of Hiram Pierson, who was a son of Samuel Pierson, one of the earliest pioneers of the Miami valley. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kerr: Lillian V., who died at the age of fifteen years, and Floyd Ellis, president of the State Bank of McBee, S. C., who married Viola Dunning and has three children, Floyd E., Jr., Enona and Newell.

William R. Kinder, county surveyor of Miami county, and widely known as an efficient civil engineer, paving and drainage expert, has occupied this office since 1919 and during his administration of its affairs has contributed materially to the development of the locality under his jurisdiction. Mr. Kinder, a resident of Troy, was born in Staunton township, this county, October 21, 1878, a son of Albert and Lettie (Rusk) Kinder, and a grandson of John Kinder, who was born in Pennsylvania and was an early settler of Warren county, Ohio. Albert Kinder was born in Warren county, but has lived the greater part of his life in Miami county and is well and favorably known as an influential farmer and stock raiser in this county. Lettie (Rusk) Kinder, the daughter of William and Mary Rusk, was born in Shelby county but came to Miami county with her parents in her girlhood, where she resided after her marriage with her husband until her death. Albert Kinder and his wife were the parents of five children: William R.; Albert, a resident of Texas; John, who resides at Casstown, Ohio; Mary, who married Charles P. Rogers of that place, and Effie, who is unmarried. William R. Kinder attended the graded schools of Lost Creek township, following which he pursued a course in civil engineering at Ohio State University and completed his preparation for his profession by taking a like course at the Ohio Northern University, from which he was duly graduated with the degree of civil

engineer in 1904. When he left college he became engaged in construction work first with the Springfield, Troy & Piqua Traction Company, then for the Big Four Railroad Company and subsequently was identified with construction work at Buffalo, N. Y., for the Buffalo & Lake Erie Traction Company. After leaving this work, Mr. Kinder spent six years as resident engineer on an irrigation project for the Bitter Root Valley Irrigation Company in Montana. Here he contributed materially to the development of this semi-desert country, helping to transform a large area from a sagebrush plain to a prosperous farming and orchard community, to establish churches and schools and taking part in all other movements so necessary in the development of a new country. After the completion of his part in this big enterprise he returned to Ohio and became deputy county surveyor of Miami county, a position which he retained for five years, in the meantime acting as resident engineer at Troy for the State Highway Department. In 1918 he was elected county surveyor of Miami county, taking office in September, 1919, and being elected for a second term in 1920. He has had charge of the greater part of the road paving done in Miami county, and has established numerous methods which has put his office on a business-like basis, and enjoys a well-merited reputation for efficiency in engineering, paving, and drainage work. Mr. Kinder married Emma R., daughter of James and Anna Gross, of Casstown, Ohio, and they have had two children: James Albert, deceased, and Ruth Analetta. Mr. Kinder took an active part in all war activities and has identified himself with various civic movements. He is an active member of the Ohio Engineering Society and the Northwestern Ohio County Surveyors' Association. He is also a member of the Presbyterian church.

John McKelveen Knouff. During a period of fifty-six years John M. Knouff has been engaged in agricultural operations on the property on which he now makes his home in Washington township, and in this time has been the chief factor in its development from mediocre productiveness and poor buildings and equipment to the height of fertility and modern improvements of all kinds. Mr. Knouff was born in Harrison county, Ohio, November 21, 1853, a son of George and Lettie Ann (McKelveen) Knouff, both deceased. One of a family of five children, of whom four are still living, Mr. Knouff received a public school education, and as a young man began farming on his own account. In the long period that he has resided on his present Washington township farm, he has installed improvements that make his property one of the most valuable and attractive in the locality and that place him in the class of his township's most progressive and substantial citizens. Mr. Knouff married, October 13, 1892, Ida, daughter of Jehial and Nannie (Morrow) Lyon, of Spring Creek township, Miami county. Mr. Lyon passed away in 1910. His wife now resides in Piqua, Ohio. To this union there have been born three children: Margaret Elvie, Nannie Marie and Lester Burdett, all at home. During the World war period Mr. and Mrs. Knouff were active participants in all

movements to aid the Government in its successful prosecution of the war, and were liberal contributors to the Liberty Loan, Red Cross, war chest and Young Men's Christian Association drives. Mr. Knouff is a great friend of education, and for many years served efficiently as a member of the Washington county school board.

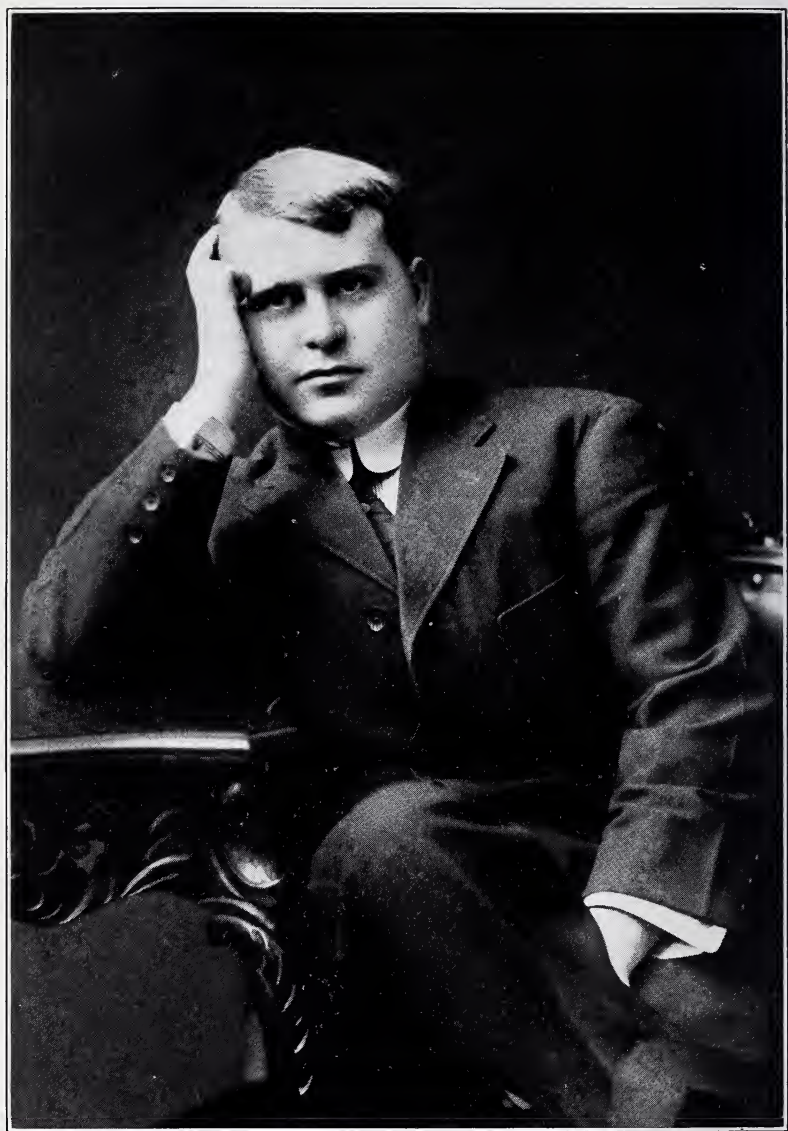
L. O. Koester. One of the native sons of Piqua who has reached a position of business preference in his home community is L. O. Koester, secretary-treasurer of the Orr Felt and Blanket Company. Born at Piqua, a son of John and Elizabeth Koester, he received his education in the graded and high schools here, and entered upon his career as an employe of the Cron Kilns Company. Later he transferred his services to the American Linseed Oil Company, and after being associated with that concern for several years accepted a minor position with the Orr Felt and Blanket Company. Here his abilities and industry were recognized and through successive promotions he has risen to his present post of secretary-treasurer. He contributes materially to the success of this enterprise and during his career with his concern has won and held the implicit confidence of his associates. Mr. Koester is a member of the Piqua Club. He is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons of which he is a thirty-second degree. During the war period he was a conspicuous figure by reason of his connection with the various movements which assisted in the winning of the war. He belongs to the Presbyterian church, of which his wife is also a member.

John A. Kraus, a leading and energetic dealer in automobiles and accessories at Covington, was born at this place, May 24, 1876, a son of John G. and Anna C. (Gensley) Kraus. His father, a native of Germany, immigrated to the United States in young manhood and settled at Covington, having assisted in the building of the Miami canal. Later he took up railroading which he followed during the remainder of his long and honorable life. He and his wife were the parents of seven children, of whom four survive: Emma, who married Charles Dunkle, of Greenville, Ohio; Clara, who married Roy Wieland, of that place; Addie, who married DeWight Diltz, of Greenville, and John A. John A. Kraus received his education in the Covington public schools, after leaving which he worked for a time on a farm. Later he went to Dayton, where he was engaged in candy-making for four years, this being followed by a period spent as a traveling salesman. For eighteen months he was in the employ of the National Cash Register Company at Dayton, his next employment being with the United States Express Company, in the service of which concern he remained for about two years. Eventually he embarked in the leaf tobacco business with a partner, as Hoefflich & Kraus, which constituted in existence from 1908 to 1915, inclusive. In 1916 Mr. Kraus disposed of his interests in the leaf tobacco business and embarked in the automobile industry, as a member of the firm of Kellenberger & Kraus. In the following year he assumed control of the business by purchasing his

partner's holdings, and at this time the enterprise is conducted by him as John A. Kraus. Mr. Kraus deals in pleasure cars and trucks and carries a full line of standard automobile accessories and has built up a splendid business in these lines. He is energetic, progressive and a good manager, and has gained a substantial business position solely through the medium of his own efforts and ability. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the local lodge of the Improved Order of Red Men, in which he has numerous friends. He has seen quite a good deal of public service, having acted as marshal and constable of Covington for eight years and was also deputy sheriff of Miami county for one year and his public record is a good one. Patriotic and public-spirited, he gave his unqualified support to all activities of the Government and local authorities during the war period. Mr. Kraus married Sylvia, daughter of John J. and Mary A. White, of Eaton, Ohio.

F. D. Kiser, M. D., a skilled and prominent practicing physician of Tippecanoe City, and a member of the city council, was born in 1886, at Fletcher, Ohio, a son of Benjamin L. and Mary (Hetzler) Kiser. His father, a soldier during the Civil war, received a wound in that struggle that crippled him permanently. There were four children in the family: Dr. I. C., a practicing physician of Piqua; Dr. F. D.; E. D., who served two terms as county treasurer of Shelby county, Ohio, and Minnie, the wife of William Kiser. F. D. Kiser was educated in the public schools of Fletcher and at Ohio Wesleyan University, following which he entered upon his professional studies at Sterling Medical College, where he received his degree of Doctor of Medicine and was graduated with the class of 1910. For a time he served as interne in the Protestant Hospital, at Columbus, then commencing his practice at Casstown, whence he came to Tippecanoe City in 1914. He has since followed his profession here and had made rapid advancement, being possessed of a large and representative clientele and having gained recognition as a man of superior professional attainments. At the outbreak of the war, Doctor Kiser attempted to enlist in the Medical Reserve corps, but on account of minor disabilities was rejected. However, he rendered valuable service to the Red Cross and the various committees, and was liberal in his contributions to the various drives. Doctor Kiser is a member of the Tippecanoe City council, where his work is of a valuable character, and fraternally is affiliated with the local lodges of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Masons, Modern Woodmen of America, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and Junior Order of United American Mechanics. He married Edith, daughter of J. A. and Jennie (Murphy) Covault, of Fletcher, Ohio, and they have two children: Maynard C. and Robert Benjamin.

W. J. Kroger, secretary and treasurer of the Troy Body Company, of Troy, has been identified with this concern since the time of its organization and is accounted one of the substantial and capable business men of his native city. He was born at Troy, June 6, 1888, a son of Fred and Elizabeth Kroger, and received his early



DR. F. D. KISER



MRS. F. D. KISER AND CHILDREN



education in the public schools. When he was still little more than a lad, he learned telegraphy and secured a position as telegrapher and station agent, a capacity in which he continued for a number of years. When the Troy Body Company was founded at Troy, in February, 1919, Mr. Kroger became cashier of the new concern, a position from which he has since advanced to the post of secretary and treasurer. Mr. Kroger, while still a young man, has already gone far in the business world, and has the unqualified confidence of his associates, while his standing in business circles of the city is that of a man who has impressed his ability upon others. The Troy Body Company is one of the important manufacturers of automobile bodies, and at this time makes the bodies for the Chalmers, H. C. S. Special, Liberty, Grant, Monroe, Sears-Scoville, Louisiana, Texas and Tulsa cars. Mr. Kroger is a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He married Miss Edith Maley, of Piqua, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward F. Maley.

Henry M. Lair, a leading merchant of West Milton, and an honored veteran of the Civil war, was born April 13, 1844, on a farm now located in the village of Gordon, Darke county, Ohio, a son of David and Sarah (Gordon) Lair, who came to Ohio from New Jersey in 1839. After a number of years spent in agricultural pursuits, David Lair laid out a town on his farm, which he named Gordon in honor of his father-in-law, and of which he later disposed by sale. He and his worthy wife were greatly respected in their community and were the parents of twelve children. The country schools of Darke county furnished Henry M. Lair the medium through which to gain his education, and when he was sixteen years of age he left the parental roof and went to southern Indiana, where he spent the summer and fall and came to West Milton in 1861. At that time he became an apprentice to the trade of shoemaker, but the Civil war came on to interrupt his career, just as it did the careers of so many young men of the land, and in September, 1861, he enlisted in the Forty-eighth regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He is the only survivor in this locality who fought with this gallant organization. Mr. Lair saw much active service until the battle of Shiloh, when he was wounded in the thigh. The wound was not taken care of properly and as a result he was temporarily incapacitated and was honorably discharged on account of disability, returning to his home in October, 1862. By the following spring he had recuperated and again took up shoemaking, a business which he followed at Middletown until the fall, then going to Troy, where he was employed by Simon Hustler. In February, 1864, he again enlisted for service in the Union Army, at this time joining the Eighth Ohio cavalry, with which he remained until the close of the war in 1865. During his latter enlistment he had numerous stirring adventures, narrowly escaping death on several occasions, particularly when he was captured by the enemy, from whose prison he effected a spectacular escape. Mr. Lair returned to West Milton July 31, 1865. At that time Mr. Lair's brother-in-

law and W. I. Tenney were conducting a shoe shop at this place, and Mr. Lair purchased Mr. Tenney's interest and went into partnership with his brother-in-law. This association continued until 1881, when he assumed entire control of the enterprise by purchase, and from that time to the present he has been the directing head of the business. This is conducted under the style of H. M. Lair & Sons Company, and of recent years the active work of the store has been carried on by Mr. Lair's three sons. This is the largest store at West Milton and carries a complete line of shoes and men's furnishings. Its large and representative patronage has been built up by many years of honorable dealing and honest representation, and the place which it occupies in public confidence is a high one, reflecting as it does the esteem and respect in which the people of this community hold its venerable head. As a public-spirited citizen Mr. Lair has interested himself in various movements pertaining to the welfare of his community and has always supported progressive enterprises of a civic character. As a fraternalist, he holds membership in the local lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, which he joined in 1866, and he is likewise a valued comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization in which he attained membership in 1885. When a young man, at West Milton, Mr. Lair was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Ann Yount, daughter of Elam Yount, of West Milton, and to this union there have been born three sons and six daughters, of whom three sons and three daughters are still living: Byron H., Frank B. and Howard K., who are engaged in conducting the store for their father; Theodosia, the wife of A. Willoughby, of West Milton, and mother of Harry Willoughby, who served in France during the World war and was wounded by shrapnel when still a mile from the fighting line, subsequently spending the greater part of his overseas service in the hospital. Mrs. Theodosia Willoughby is also the mother of three other children: Richard, Robert and Laurabelle. Mary Frances, the wife of Jesse Pfeifer, of Syracuse, N. Y. They are the parents of one son, Bernard, and two daughters, Mildred and Hester; and Margaret, a graduate of Oxford and Ohio State Colleges and Columbia University, who was a teacher at Clifton Springs, N. Y., but is now a teacher at Greenville, Ohio.

John W. Landrey, junior member of the firm of Strock & Landrey, men's furnishing goods, is one of the enterprising and capable business men of Troy and one who has worked his own way to success. Mr. Landrey has spent his entire life at Troy, where he was born, and belongs to an old and honored family of this community, his grandfather having been the first constable of the village. His parents were John and Viroma (Hopkins) Landrey, natives of this place, who had four children: Martha, Mamie, John W. and one who died in infancy. The public schools of Troy furnished John W. Landrey with his educational training, and when he put aside his schoolbooks he entered life on his own account. His introduction to business affairs came through his employment as a clerk in a shoe store and that continued to be his status during

a period of fourteen years, in which he assimilated many of the principles of sound business dealing. With this experience, in 1907 he formed a partnership with Glen C. Strock, the firm of Strock & Landrey thus coming into existence. They now have a splendid patronage, built up through honorable methods. Mr. Landrey married Edith, daughter of Albert Brunse, of Troy, and they have one child, Richard. Mr. Landrey is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Odd Fellows, and was a generous contributor to all war movements.

Albert W. Landis, who as cashier of the Citizens National Bank of Covington has won the confidence and esteem of his associates and the public of his community, was born at Circle Hill, Ohio, June 24, 1883, a son of Simon and Samantha (Compton) Landis. There were four children in the family: Theodore, Ella, Albert W. and Emma. Albert W. Landis acquired his education in the country schools and the high school at Covington, and in 1905 became identified with the Citizens National Bank, of which he was made cashier in 1908. He has continued to discharge the duties of this position to the present time, and has contributed in no small degree to the success and prosperity of his institution. During the World war period he was an indefatigable worker in behalf of the various war loans, and in other ways has demonstrated his good citizenship and public spirit. He has several civic and social connections and takes an active part generally in the life of his community. Mr. Landis married Estella, daughter of George and Carolyn (Heitzmann) Rike, of Covington, and they have two children: Mary Catherine and Helen Carolyn.

Edward W. Lape, Sr., vice-president of the Favorite Stove and Range Company, was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, March 15, 1848, a son of William Henry and Martha A. (Taylor) Lape. He belongs to a family which contributed of its members in the support of American industries and institutions, one of his grand-uncles serving as a soldier during the Indian wars. His father acted as a deputy United States provost marshal during the war between the North and the South. His parents had four children: Edward W.; William Rufus; Carrie L., the wife of S. S. Church, an attorney of Cincinnati, and Sallie C., a widow. The education of Edward W. Lape was acquired at Newport, Ky., and Chickering Academy, Cincinnati, following which he pursued a course in the Bryant, Stratton and De Han Business College, of that city. For three years he was employed by Nicholas Patterson & Company, and for a like period was identified with the W. C. Davis Stove Company. For four years he was with the Favorite Stove Works at Cincinnati, but in 1888 was transferred to Piqua, where he has since been connected with the Favorite Stove and Range Company, gradually working his way upward through merit and industry to the position of vice-president. A history of this leading enterprise will be found in the industrial section of this work. Mr. Lape married for his first wife Machir P. Simmons, of Felicity, Ohio, and they had one child, Bessie Louise, who married Herbert Hoffman, of Piqua.

For his second wife Mr. Lape was united with Jeanette F. Smith, now deceased. They had four children: Edward Walter, Jr., chemist of the Davis Sewing Machine Company, of Dayton; Martha, who resides at home, and Robert F. and Catherine Jean, who are attending high school. The business connections of Mr. Lape are numerous and important and include the vice-presidency and treasurership of the Favorite Stove and Range Company, of Piqua, Ohio. He is a Mason of high standing and a member of the Church of Christ.

Rev. John F. Lampe, pastor of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, at Tippecanoe City, was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, July 20, 1884, a son of George and Elizabeth (Schloemer) Lampe. After attending the parochial schools of his native parish, Father Lampe pursued a course at St. Xavier's College, Cincinnati, then entering St. Meinrad's Seminary, in Indiana, after leaving which he enrolled at Mount St. Mary's Theological Seminary, Cincinnati, where he completed his theological training. He was ordained to the priesthood of the Catholic church in 1910, by Archbishop Moeller, his first charge being as assistant pastor of the Church of the Blessed Sacrament at Cincinnati. He subsequently became assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church, Urbana, and then spent five years at Dayton, whence he came in 1918 to Tippecanoe City to accept his present charge, succeeding Father Louis Bergher. In connection with his duties at Tippecanoe City, Father Lampe fills the pulpit of the missions at Bedford and St. Paris. A man of great learning and splendid intellect, he has governed the affairs of his church with excellent executive ability, and as the spiritual advisor, business counsellor and devoted friend of his people has won their reverence, respect and affection.

Frederick Laufer. During a period of fourteen years, Frederick Laufer has been identified with the business interests of Troy, being a member of the firm of Laufer Brothers, proprietors of a grocery establishment that is rated among the better known enterprises of the city. He was born at Tippecanoe City, Ohio, July 9, 1882, a son of Fred and Bertha (Eckerle) Laufer, and one of a family of five children. His educational advantages were acquired in the public schools of Troy, to which city he had been brought as a child, and here he was introduced to his first experience with business, while working at Peters' Tree Nursery. Later Mr. Laufer was employed in a factory, but finally, in 1903, turned his attention to the grocery business, and in partnership with his brother, John Edwin Laufer, founded the firm of Laufer Brothers, which, during the fourteen years of its existence has developed into the proportions of a necessary commercial asset. This establishment carries a full line of staple and fancy groceries, attractively arranged and moderately priced, and the excellence of service, fair representation and general courtesy extended have brought the concern into public confidence and favor. Mr. Laufer was active in all local movements during the great war period and in civic affairs has always taken a public-spirited citizen's interest. He is fraternally affiliated

with the Knights of Columbus and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He married Mary, daughter of Andrew Karch, of Troy, who died without issue in 1914.

John E. Laufer, senior member of the leading grocery concern of Laufer Brothers, at Troy, Ohio, and one of the self-made men of this community who has risen through his own efforts to a substantial position, was born at Piqua, Ohio, January 8, 1877, a son of Fred and Bertha (Eckerle) Laufer, who came to Miami county in 1873. One of a family of five children, Mr. Laufer attended the public and parochial schools of Troy, after leaving which he was employed in Peters' Tree Nursery for three years, his brother Frederick working there for six months. John E. Laufer was only sixteen years of age when he began his connection with the grocery business, and for a long period of years he worked for others, in the meantime thoroughly familiarizing himself with all details of the industry. Eventually, in 1906, he and his brother, Frederick, formed a partnership and founded the business of Laufer Brothers, which has since developed into one of the leading grocery establishments of Troy, with a large, representative and constantly-growing patronage. Mr. Laufer stands justly high in the esteem and confidence of his associates in the business world and in the confidence of his patrons. He has capably discharged the duties of citizenship and during the war period was a generous contributor to the various measures. As a fraternalist he is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He married Ella, daughter of William Hennessy, of Troy, and they have six children: Loretta, born in 1909; William, born in 1911; John, born in 1913; Robert, born in 1915; Paul, born in 1916, and Eleanor, born in 1918.

Thomas C. Leonard, president of the Tippecanoe National Bank of Tippecanoe City, and formerly for forty-two years identified with the manufacturing interests of this city, was born in 1850, at Covington, Ohio, a son of Joseph and Margaret (Lindsay) Leonard, and a brother of Serepta Leonard. Mr. Leonard attended the public schools of Covington, where he received his introduction to commercial affairs in connection with a dry goods enterprise, and in 1876 came to Tippecanoe City, where he took the management of a wheel works. Under his management this grew steadily, developing into one of the leading manufacturing concerns of the city, and in 1918, after forty-two years of continuous business activity, Mr. Leonard disposed of his interests to the Northern Manufacturing Company. During this period Mr. Leonard's business and financial connections had been numerous and important, and on January 1, 1920, he was re-elected president of the Tippecanoe National Bank, a position which he has retained for many years. He is widely known in banking and business circles as a man of sound conservatism and proved ability. As a fraternalist he is a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason and a member of the Mystic Shrine. Mr. Leonard married Mary, daughter of Jacob Rohrer, and to this union there have been born three children: J. E., who married Mildred Smith and has five children, Betty Ann,

Thomas, Mary E., Jean and J. E., Jr.; Louis C., who served on the front in France during the World war as a member of an ammunition train company in the Thirty-seventh division, American Expeditionary Forces, and is a member of the various Masonic bodies, including the Scottish Rite and Shrine; and Margery, who married Herman Schultz and has one child, Leonard. Mr. Schultz is a Mason.

William K. Leonard, president of the Piqua Hosiery Company, is one of the leading business citizens of Piqua. He was born at Covington, Ohio, September 16, 1865, a son of Lewis and Charity E. (Kendall) Leonard, the father being entitled to the title of captain by reason of his service in that rank during the Civil war. Captain Leonard was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, and in early life was a saddler by trade. Leaving Pennsylvania he came to Covington, Ohio, and worked at his trade until the outbreak of the Civil war interrupted his career and demanded four years of his life. Upon his return he engaged in the general store business, as well as the grain business, and in 1869 came to Piqua and entered into partnership with William Orr and William N. Kendall in the manufacture of linseed oil, in 1870. Subsequently, he also engaged in the manufacture of strawboard and was one of the founders of the Union Underwear Company, a concern that later was moved to Greenville. He passed away at Piqua, greatly esteemed and honored, in 1900. Mr. Leonard married Charity E., daughter of William and Barbara (Billingsley) Kendall, the Billingsleys being pioneers of Miami county. Mr. and Mrs. Leonard were the parents of seven children: John H.; Mrs. Amelia L. Daniels, whose son Thomas L. was a captain of artillery during the recent war; Mrs. Grace L. Bredin, whose son Lewis L. was a captain in the aviation branch of the service during the late war and won much fame as an ace pilot in France; Forrest K., who was drowned in 1884; Lee I., who died in 1889; Lewis L., who died in 1900, and William K. William K. Leonard was educated in the public schools of Piqua and at the University of Pennsylvania, and after leaving the latter engaged in the linseed oil business with his father. He became secretary-treasurer of the Piqua Hosiery Company, of which concern he is now president. This has become one of the leading enterprises of its kind in the State and adds much to Piqua's commercial importance and prestige. The position which Mr. Leonard occupies in the esteem and confidence of his associates is evidenced by the fact that he is president of the Ohio Manufacturers' Association. He belongs to the Piqua Club, the Golf Club, the Dayton Club and the Athletic Club of Columbus, and is a Scottish Rite and Knight Templar Mason and a Noble of the Mystic Shrine. He was prominent in all war activities and acted as chief of the American Protective League, Miami county division. Mr. Leonard is likewise vestryman of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Piqua. He was married in 1888 to Nannie C., daughter of William W. Wood, and to this union there were born two sons: Kenneth, who attended the University of Virginia and was with the Piqua Hosiery Com-

pany until he entered the aviation service during the great war and was commissioned a second lieutenant, and William W., a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, who enlisted in the University of Pennsylvania Medical unit and drove an ambulance in France until the signing of the Armistice. For distinguished service he was decorated with the Croix de Guerre. The mother of these sons died in 1903 and in 1910 Mr. Leonard married Mrs. Edith (Albers) Merchant, who is a daughter of Henry and Susan R. Albers, of Los Angeles, Calif.

Amos W. Light, a leading druggist of Piqua, has been identified with this line of commercial industry since 1891. He was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, January 7, 1873, a son of John Louis and Elizabeth (Schmidt) Light, also of Cincinnati. He has one sister, Edith, and one brother, Arthur, the latter a physician at Cincinnati. After graduating from Woodward High School at Cincinnati, Amos W. Light attended the Cincinnati Medical School for two years, after which he turned his attention to the study of pharmacy and after a course of two years was graduated from the Cincinnati College of Pharmacy in 1891. At that time he entered the drug business in his native city, where he remained until September, 1918, at that time coming to Piqua and establishing himself in business at Broadway and High streets, where he has since built up a large and lucrative patronage. Mr. Light is a thoroughly capable business man and one whose sound integrity in business transactions has won him respect and standing in commercial circles. He is a valued and popular member of the local lodge of Elks and has other connections of a social and civic character. Mr. Light married Leah, daughter of William and Mary (Lyford) Burdsal, of Cincinnati, and they have two children: Amos and Virginia Leah.

L. N. Lindenberger, M. D., a well-known physician of Troy, although he has been engaged in practice here for only a short period, is a veteran of the great World war. He was born at Troy, September 10, 1886, a son of Dr. L. M. and Mary E. (Norton) Lindenberger, of Farmington, Me. Dr. L. M. Lindenberger was born at Delaware, Ohio, educated at Oberlin College, and graduated in medicine at Bellevue. For a time he taught school in Miami county, his medical work being commenced at Casstown, where he resided two years, then coming to Troy, where he assumed a prominent place in his profession and retained it until his death, July 23, 1919. He was a prominent and influential citizen of his community and for some years a member of the board of education. The Norton family is of old original Yankee stock, having located on Martha's Vineyard Island, off the coast of Maine, as early as 1630. One of the ancestors, Maj. Peter Norton, was a distinguished soldier of the War of the Revolution, and in the early days the Nortons were noted seafaring men, Ichabod Norton having been a master whaler of New Bedford, Mass. Madame Nordica, the famous operatic star, was a Norton by descent and a full cousin of Mrs. Dr. L. M. Lindenberger. One of two children born to his parents, his brother John being deceased, L. N. Lindenberger secured his early educa-

tion in the graded and high schools of Troy and then entered Ohio Wesleyan University, from which he was graduated in 1908, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. For two years he taught in the high school at Sidney, Ohio, and then took part of his freshman course in medicine at the Harvard School of Medicine but finished his medical studies in the medical department of the University of Cincinnati. He became an interne in the Cincinnati Hospital, and after competitive examination was made chief receiving physician of the hospital. His career at this time was interrupted by the entrance of the United States into the World war, and, called for military service August 11, 1917, Doctor Lindemberger enlisted in the Medical Reserve corps. He was assigned to the Medical Officers Training corps, at Fort Benjamin Harrison, and in November, 1917, was sent to Camp Taylor, where he was placed in complete charge in handling the epidemic of cerebro-spinal meningitis. Doctor Lindemberger was next commissioned first lieutenant and ordered to the Cincinnati General Hospital, where he mobilized the enlisted personnel for Base Hospital No. 25. He was then promoted to captain of the United States Medical corps and ordered to the base hospital at Camp Sherman, from there going to Camp Mills, and June 23, 1918, being ordered to sail for France. On his arrival on foreign soil, Doctor Lindemberger was attached to Base Hospital No. 25, near the village of Allery-Saone-et-Loire, and remained there until April 23, 1919. During this time he acted as commanding officer of enlisted men in the medical department and later was advanced to the rank of adjutant. Returning to the United States, he was mustered out of the service May 8, 1919, and resumed his post as chief receiving physician at the Cincinnati General Hospital, a position which he retained until September, 1919, when he returned to Troy to succeed to his father's practice. He has already made much progress in his profession and is rapidly becoming accepted as one of the leaders among the younger physicians and surgeons of the city. Doctor Lindemberger is a member of the board of health, of the county, state and national medical bodies and of the Sigma Chi and Alpha Kappa Kappa fraternities. He is likewise a Mason, and belongs to Clifford Thompson Post of the American Legion.

Walter Le Fevre. In presenting, in these volumes, the lives of such men of Miami county, who have deserved well of their fellow-citizens, the biographer should not forget those who, although unobtrusive in their everyday life, yet by their individuality and force of character assisted in advancing in every way the interests of the community in which they live. In an extended search it would be difficult to find one who better than Walter Le Fevre gave substantial proof of the wisdom of Lincoln, when he said, "There is something better than making a living, making a life." Seemingly with a realization of this great truth he labored persistently and energetically, not only to win success but to make his life a source of benefit to his fellow men. By his own honorable exertions and moral attributes, he carved out for himself a place

among the most prominent and substantial citizens of his county. Kind-hearted, generous, always sympathetic for the frailties of others, possessed of a never failing fount of good humor, no man in this community could claim more friends or fewer enemies than he whose name is the caption of this review. Le Fevre has been a distinguished name in American history from the earliest settlement of the country and no generation since then has been without its leading citizens of this cognomen. In the past the name has had various spellings, but "Le Fevre" is now of general usage in America as well as France and England. The coat of arms is thus described: The body of the shield in black, a trefoil slipper is in gold in the upper right and left corners; the chevron across the center is in silver beneath which is a maltese cross in gold. Then we have below this a bazant in gold representing a gold coin. The motto is "Sans Changes," meaning "without change." The crest is exquisite in design, the trunk of a tree couped and eradicated in fess; between the branches, growing from the trunk, is the flower of France, the Fleur de Lis. The first of the name of Le Fevre, of which our subject is a descendant, to reach America's shores was Isaac Le Fevre, who landed in New York State in 1708. The Le Fevres of France numbered among them, the Duke of Dantzia, Francois Joseph Le Fevre, who was one of Napoleon's greatest generals, and Shaw Le Fevre, of England, who was a member of the House of Lords. Among those of American history, was Hipolyte Le Fevre, of Salem, N. J., who was in 1676 a member of the Famous Council of John Fenwick. Andres and Simon Le Fevre signed the Treaty of May 26, 1677, with the Indian Sachems of New York. Among the others was George Le Fevre, of Revolutionary renown; Col. Daniel Le Fevre of the War of 1812; Major John F. Reynolds killed in the battle of Gettysburg in July, 1863; Admiral W. S. Schley, and many others of the Le Fevres have filled prominent places in civil life. (I) Isaac Le Fevre, the emigrant who died in 1736, had married Catherine Fierre, and to them were born six children: Abraham, Philip, Daniel, Mary, Esther and Samuel. (II) Daniel, to whom our subject traced his ancestry, was born on his father's farm, in the Pequea valley, March 29, 1713, and married in 1738, Mary Cathean. To them were born eight children: Christian, Mary, Catherine, Elias, David, Esther and Daniel, and a boy who died in infancy. (III) Christian, who was born near Frederick, Md., June 12, 1786, and married in 1808 Jessie Maloy. To this union were born thirteen children: Sarah, John, Elizabeth, Minor, Naomi, Amy, Reason, James, Alfred, Cyrus, Christian, Solomon and Mary. (IV) Cyrus was born in 1824 and died in 1894. He married Caroline Babb, after whose death he married her sister, Minerva Babb. To the first union were born three children: our subject, Walter Le Fevre and his brother Frank, whose biography appears on other pages in these volumes, and one died in infancy (a son who was the second in order of birth). (V) Walter Le Fevre was born on the same farm as his father July 23, 1857, a son of Cyrus and Caroline (Babb) Le Fevre, previously referred to. He was educated in the

Staunton township district school. After laying aside his text books, Mr. Le Fevre assisted his father on the home farm until the latter's death. The farm then came into his possession and Mr. Le Fevre engaged here in general farming until March, 1900. On the seventeenth day of September, 1884, Walter Le Fevre was united in marriage with Miss Eva Campbell, a daughter of Robert and Sarah (Wellinger) Campbell, and they remained on the farm until March, 1900, when they moved to Troy, and here Mr. Le Fevre passed away March 20, 1918. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Le Fevre were the parents of a son, Vernon, who is connected with The Troy National Bank and whose biography succeeds this. In concluding this review of the life of Mr. Le Fevre it may be said that he lived a fine life and lived it well, and he was happiest when busiest. In any relation and in any emergency he was prompt and dependable. He had confidence and courage and he was always ready to meet any obligations. He had a clear conception of things and the right regard for what was best in the exercise of human activities. With all the elements of a strong character in all his relations of life, business, public and personal, he measured up to the highest standard of a loving husband, a noble father and a splendid citizen. Vernon Campbell Le Fevre was born on the farm that has been in possession of his family for 115 years, July 12, 1886, the son of Walter L. Le Fevre. He attended the district school and Troy High School, graduating with the class of 1904. He entered the business world in the Troy National Bank in 1903, as an accountant, and was promoted to the position of teller in 1913, which work he is still continuing. Mr. Le Fevre is affiliated with the Masonic order, being a member of the Blue lodge, chapter, council and commandery, and is a past officer in the Franklin lodge No. 14 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and is active in other Masonic organizations. He was married June 23, 1907, to Edna Harr, daughter of Juel and Louisa Phillipi Harr. Juel Harr was a former clothing merchant of Troy, now deceased. Two sons were born to Vernon and Edna LeFevre: Richard K., and Frederick C. Mr. Le Fevre is a Republican and takes an active interest in politics. He is a member of the first Presbyterian church.

Frank Le Fevre. Of few of the farms of Miami county can it be said that they have remained under one family name for 115 years, but this is the case with the Le Fevre farm, now owned by Frank Le Fevre in Staunton township. The Le Fevre family originated in France and was founded in America at the time of the expulsion of the Huguenots, when the original emigrant fled to this country to escape persecution because of his religious faith, and settled in Maryland. Christian Le Fevre, the grandfather of Frank Le Fevre, was born in 1786, and when still a young man migrated to Miami county, Ohio, from Maryland, bringing with him his bride, who was born in 1789, and to whom he was married March 17, 1808. He had secured a buckskin deed to 262 acres of land, signed by President Monroe, this property being located near the present site of Troy, although at that early date there were no indi-

cations of the flourishing city that was to arise here. Building his little log cabin in the timber, this sturdy pioneer took up the work of clearing and cultivation, assisted in building the road through to Cincinnati, and rounded out a worthy and honorable career in the pursuits of farming and stock raising. He and his wife were the parents of eight sons and five daughters. His death occurred December 6, 1871. Cyrus H. Le Fevre was born in Miami county in 1824, was educated in the early district schools and reared to the pursuits of farming. In 1856 he married Caroline Babb, a member of another early family of this county, and they became the parents of three children: one child who died in infancy; Walter, who farmed a part of the home tract until his death in March, 1918; when he left one son, Vernon, born in 1885, a banker of Troy, and Frank. Cyrus H. Le Fevre was a farmer throughout his life in Miami county and added many improvements to the home farm. He was a man of sterling integrity who had the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens and who contributed in marked degree to the welfare of his locality. His death occurred October 26, 1894, and he was survived only one year by his widow. Frank Le Fevre was born on the home place which has always been his residence and secured his education in the district schools of Staunton township. During the entire period of his active career he applied himself to general farming, in addition to which he carried on some thoroughbred stock raising, and his labors were attended by uniform success. In 1902 a cyclone visited this region and demolished the barns and outhouses, in addition to practically destroying the house, and these buildings were all replaced by Mr. Le Fevre, who also added new equipment. At this time he is living retired from active pursuits, but interests himself in the supervision of the home farm. He has always been a helpful participant in local affairs, and during the war period acted as a member of the draft registration board and the Liberty Loan committees and subscribed generously to all movements, while Mrs. Le Fevre worked energetically in behalf of the Red Cross. September 20, 1892, Mr. Le Fevre was united in marriage with Miss Clara Lovina Schram, of Pleasant Hill, Ohio, of German parentage, and an agricultural family. One child was born to this union, Helen May, who married in October, 1919, Alfred Fish, connected with the Hobart Manufacturing Company, of Troy, Ohio, who enlisted in May, 1917, in the Quartermaster's corps at Camp Sherman, and received his honorable discharge in May, 1919.

Adam H. Long. For many years the name of Long has been identified with a successful and honorable grocery and market business at Troy, where two generations of the name have catered to the wants of a large and exclusive patronage. At this time the business is conducted by Adam H. Long, who was born at Troy, October 26, 1880, a son of M. H. and Mary (Strubel) Long. There were two children in the family: Cora, the wife of Dr. Frank Hyde, a practicing dental physician of Detroit, Mich., and Adam H. Adam H. Long received a public school education and on complet-

ing his studies began his business training in the grocery and market of his father, a native of Troy, who had founded the business a number of years before. At the time of the elder man's retirement the son assumed the management of the business, of which he has been proprietor since 1913. The Long market and grocery has an excellent custom, built up through years of honorable dealing and fostered by the courtesy, energy and progressive ideas of the present owner. Mr. Long takes a good citizen's interest in public matters, and during the war period contributed his share to the various drives. He married Miss Eva Hawley, a native of Canada, and they are the parents of one child, Wilmot, who is attending school.

Kenneth Little. Among the professional men of Troy of acknowledged standing, one who has won his way to prominence in law is Kenneth Little. Mr. Little was born at Bradford, Ohio, August 1, 1887, a son of A. F. and Rebecca (Haley) Little, the former of whom is the publisher of the Bradford (Ohio) Sentinel and the Tribune-Gazette of Covington, Ohio. There were five children in the family: Faith, who is the wife of H. B. Eller, of Bradford; Kenneth; Carrol, an educator of Emporia, Kans.; Russell, and Edna, wife of Harold E. Fross. Kenneth Little was educated at the graded and high schools of Bradford, Ohio, and the Ohio State University, from which he was duly graduated with the degree of Doctor of Laws. He began the practice of his profession at Columbus, Ohio, in 1908, but subsequently changed his field of activity to Troy, where in 1913 he was made chief deputy of the probate court, a capacity in which he acted capably until 1915. He joined the Ohio National Guard in 1905 and at the time that his regiment was called to the Mexican border, held the rank of second lieutenant. He went to the border as second lieutenant of Company A, of Covington, Ohio, and some time thereafter was made first lieutenant, January 22, 1917. Later he was transferred to Company D, of the same regiment, with which he went to France and Belgium, where he saw active service at the front. In the Ypres-Lys offensive he was the only officer of his company who survived death or injury, and after Lieutenant Hess had been killed and Captain Freshour wounded, Lieutenant Little took command of the company, which he reorganized. In spite of the fact that the company was exposed to a murderous flanking fire, Lieutenant Little succeeded in its successful organization, and for three days it continued its steady advance. Later, Lieutenant Little was transferred to Company A and was made assistant division judge advocate at Alancon, France, and this was followed by his transfer to division headquarters and his promotion to the rank of captain, a capacity in which he served until demobilization. Returning to his native land one month later than the rest of his regiment and division, he resumed the practice of law at Troy, where he has since built up a large, lucrative and important practice. Mr. Little married Cora, daughter of A. W. McCune, of Troy, in June, 1905, and they are the parents of three children: Delmas, Bernard and Don. As a fraternalist, Mr. Little is affiliated with the Masons, the



CAPT. KENNETH LITTLE



Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Improved Order of Red Men and the Loyal Order of Moose. Mr. Little is an enthusiastic member of the American Legion, in which he is at present acting as county chairman for Miami county. His religious connection is with the Presbyterian church. Mr. Little served as city solicitor of Bradford, Ohio, for three and one-half years, and acted in a like capacity at Troy until his military duties caused him to go elsewhere at which time he resigned. Mr. Little was elected prosecuting attorney for Miami county on November second, by the largest majority ever received by a candidate in this county.

Lee B. Looney. In the fertile and productive agricultural community of Spring Creek township, a name that is recognized as belonging to a progressive farmer and substantial citizen is that of Lee B. Looney. Mr. Looney was born in Miami county, a son of George W. Looney, who was a farmer in this locality for many years and was a man of standing and general worth. After following the usual custom of farmers' sons of his day and locality, in attending the district schools during the winter terms and assisting his father during the summer months, Lee B. Looney began agricultural operations on his own account in young manhood, and has continued to follow the pursuits of the soil to the present time, with constantly increasing success. His industry and intelligent treatment of the soil have combined to make his ventures prosperous, while his policy of straightforward dealing has served to make his name honored among his associates. He did a good citizen's duty during the World war period in the way of supporting the enterprises of the Government, and his actions in civic matters have also been commendable. Mr. Looney married Miss Lindeam Long, and to this union there has been born one son, Lee B., Jr.

George W. Lorimer, president of the Lorimer Manufacturing Company of Troy, can lay claim to distinction in several widely divergent fields of activity, having been the inventor of the automatic telephone, a large and successful manufacturer of phonograph motors and an amateur marksman with the championship of the Grand American Handicap to his credit. He was born at Brantford, Ontario, Can., in 1874, a son of James and Harrie A. (Smith) Lorimer, and inherits his ingenuity, or a part thereof, from his father, who was a well-known inventor and manufacturer. Educated in the public schools of Brantford, Mr. Lorimer devoted much of his youth to electrical experimental and laboratory work, and eighteen years were consumed in the perfection of an automatic telephone, in the invention of which he was aided by his brothers, Hoyt and Egbert. When this was found to be successful, it was adopted by many cities in this and other countries, and the patents were finally purchased by the American Bell Telephone Company, which concern controls them at this time. In 1897 Mr. Lorimer located at Piqua, and while there was engaged in telephone experimentation, but also interested himself in other matters, business and public, and in 1914 was elected mayor of that city. In 1915 he

came to Troy, where he founded the Lorimer-Hicks Company, manufacturers of phonograph motors, which has since been succeeded by the Lorimer Manufacturing Company, with Mr. Lorimer as president. This company is doing a thriving business under the guidance of Mr. Lorimer and its product is meeting with an excellent reception in the various large cities. He is likewise the inventor of several other devices, the most important of which is a sand-mixing machine, which is in general use. Aside from his business connections, Mr. Lorimer is widely known throughout the country as an expert marksman. From boyhood he has been familiar with the skilled use of firearms, and in August, 1919, won the national trapshooting championship, in the Grand American Handicap at Chicago, in a field of 860 entrants from all over the United States and Canada. The prize was a handsome and valuable silver trophy. This was the twentieth annual event of this kind, and was held at the South Shore Country Club, from August 11 to 15. The contestants shot at inanimate targets, and a triple tie resulted among Mr. Lorimer, W. E. Gordon, of Mobile, Ala., and J. Edward Hellyer, of Alexandria, Pa., each having a score of ninety-eight. In the shootoff, Mr. Lorimer, who shot from eighteen yards and used a Smith gun, broke eighteen targets; Gordon, shooting from nineteen yards, broke seventeen, and Hellyer, who shot from twenty-one yards, broke sixteen. Mr. Lorimer is a member of the Masons and the Elks. During the war, he enlisted in the ordnance department and was given a commission as captain. With his family he belongs to the Episcopal church. Mr. Lorimer married Miss Jennie A. Hunter, of Brantford, Can., and they are the parents of three children: Hoyt, a student at St. John's Military Academy, Delafield, Wis.; Genevieve, who is attending the National Cathedral Episcopal School, at Washington, D. C., and Harry, a pupil in the Troy public schools.

Leo Louis, one of the progressive and enterprising merchants of Piqua, where he is proprietor of the Piggly-Wiggly store, was born at Piqua, in 1867, a son of David and Regina (Lebensburger) Louis. David Louis was prominent in business circles of Piqua, where he owned and operated a grocery business for many years. He and his wife were the parents of five children: Ralph, Meyer, Abe, Leo and Rose. Leo Louis was educated in the public schools of Piqua and received his business training under the preceptorship of his father, with whom he became associated immediately upon leaving school. He succeeded the elder man in the management of the business, and of recent years became interested in the so-called "Piggly-Wiggly" system of selling groceries, establishing stores of this kind at both Piqua and Sidney. Under his progressive and honorable method of management both of these stores have flourished and prospered and Mr. Louis has become one of the successful as well as the highly honored business men of his native city. Mr. Louis married Miss Blanche Wallbrunn, of Chillicothe, Mo., and to them there have been born three children: Clara R., Leo, Jr., and Margery. During the war period Mr. Louis was



JOHN H. IRELAND

extremely active in assisting the various drives, and is the proud possessor of a certificate presented him in acknowledgment of his accomplishments in the way of selling war bonds. He is still a member of and active worker in the Red Cross. Mr. Louis is a member also of the Jewish Synagogue, the Piqua Club, the Rotary Club, the Masons and the Knights of Pythias and a charter member of the Elks. He has numerous dependable friends who have watched his successful rise with interest.

John H. Ireland, the leading optician at West Milton, and an instrumental musician of something more than local reputation, was born in 1889, at West Milton, a son of G. F. and Anna (Applegate) Ireland. During the War of 1812, Henry Ireland, the great-grandfather of John H., was a member of the band at Fort McHenry, which played inspiring music for the little garrison during the heavy bombardment by the British warships, September 14, 1814. It was at this time that Francis Scott Key, who was detained on one of the warships, wrote "The Star Spangled Banner." The grandfather of Mr. Ireland organized a militia company for service in the Union Army during the Civil war, was made its captain, and lost his life in the battle of Pittsburg Landing. G. F. Ireland has been for many years the leading jeweler of West Milton, where he is greatly esteemed and respected, and has served as postmaster. He and his wife have two children: John H. and Mrs. Dr. E. Furnas, of Englewood, Ohio. John H. Ireland received his education in the public schools of West Milton, following which he pursued a course at the Northern Illinois College of Optometry. Graduating therefrom in 1912, he at once entered upon the practice of his calling at West Milton, where he has since built up a large and representative patronage. Mr. Ireland is also an accomplished instrumental musician, and in 1911 enlisted in the Ohio National Guard, being made assistant band leader thereof. When his contingent began training for service in the World war, he was made band leader at Camp Lee, Va., and later went to France, where he served in a like capacity. He has been connected with several musical organizations at West Milton and is an acknowledged artist on several instruments. He takes an active interest in all that affects the welfare of his community, where he is known as a substantial and public spirited citizen and is possessed of numerous friends. Mr. Ireland married Alberta, daughter of Henry Seaman, of Cincinnati.

Mason Hooker Lytle, superintendent for the Piqua district of the Dayton Power and Light Company, was born at Dayton, Ohio, March 2, 1887, a son of Harry Voorhees and Hettie Mason (Hooker) Lytle. Mrs. Lytle's mother, who came from Virginia, belonged to the prominent Mason family of that state. The Hookers came from New York, and Gen. Joseph Hooker, of Civil war fame, was a close relative of Mr. Hooker's mother. On the paternal side, also, Mr. Lytle is related to the Voorhees family, of which the renowned Senator Voorhees, of Indiana, was a member. Harry V. Lytle was a shoe manufacturer, of Cincinnati, who later moved

to Dayton and engaged in business and there is living in comfortable and honorable retirement. Mrs. Lytle died at Dayton, April 18, 1896, the mother of three sons: Mason H., Horace and Harry V., Jr. Mason Hooker Lytle was educated at Dayton and upon leaving the public schools secured a position with the Dayton Power and Light Company. His first position was a humble one, but as he gradually mastered the technical phases of the business and showed his worth and reliability he won advancement until December, 1912, when he was made superintendent of the Piqua district, a post which he has still retained. Mr. Lytle is a member of the Piqua Club, the Piqua Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club and has been identified with a number of civic, social and business movements which have advanced the city's interest and welfare. He is a member of the board of directors of the Rotary Club. With his family, he holds membership in the Episcopal church. Mr. Lytle married Marion C., daughter of George C. Towle, of Dayton, formerly of Boston, Mass., and to this union there have been born two children: Mason Hooker, Jr., and George Towle.

W. E. Lytle, a leading and reliable member of the Miami county bar, who has been engaged in practice at Troy for some years, was born near Lancaster, Ohio, on a farm July 15, 1871, a son of William and Margaret (Bretz) Lytle. John Lytle, grandfather of W. E., was a Perry county farmer who enlisted in the Union Army during the war between the States, and met a soldier's death. William Lytle was born in Perry county, Ohio, and during the Civil war enlisted in the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. While still in camp he met with an accident that not only incapacitated him for further service but crippled him for life. He was engaged in farming throughout his career and was one of the highly respected citizens of Darke county. The Bretz family came originally from Pennsylvania and settled in Pickaway county as early as 1803. There were eleven children in the family of William and Margaret Lytle: W. E., Mary, Frank, Charles, Milton, Elmer, Rachael, Emma, Julia, Isabel and Carrie. Of these, Mary and Emma are deceased. W. E. Lytle was educated in the public schools and the Ohio Northern University at Ada, and began his career, like many other attorneys, as a teacher in the country schools. During ten years he instructed the youthful mind of the country districts of Darke county, spending his leisure hours in the study of law. Admitted to the State bar, he practiced in Tippecanoe City for seven and one-half years, and in 1908 was elected prosecuting attorney of Miami county on the Republican ticket. In 1911 he established himself in practice at Troy, but when the United States entered the great World war, he was appointed first as a Red Cross worker for overseas service, being appointed a first lieutenant. While awaiting his summons for duty, he closed his office and patriotically devoted his time and energies to farming on his tract of 103 acres of land near Troy. In October, 1918, he suffered the loss of two fingers, which incapacitated him for service in the Red Cross and was discharged. Since

the signing of the Armistice Mr. Lytle has resumed his activities as an attorney in Troy, Ohio, where his standing is excellent and his reputation among his fellow-practitioners is that of a member of the profession who observes its highest ethics. He still maintains his beautiful country home, one mile north of Troy which is one of the most modernly equipped farms in this part of the State. He is fraternally affiliated with the local lodges of the Knights of Pythias and the Junior Order of United American Mechanics. With his family, he belongs to the Methodist church, where he holds membership on the board of trustees. Mr. Lytle married Zella, daughter of Frank N. and Catherine Rank, of Greenville, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Lytle have had no children, but have an adopted son and daughter, Pearl and Paul Swank, twins, who came into their home when three years of age and are now nine years old, attending the public schools of Troy.

Hugh C. McClellan, D. D. S., whose recognized skill as a dental practitioner has commended him to the unwavering confidence not only of his patients but of the entire community of Piqua, has been engaged in practice at this place since 1914. He was born at Goshen, Ohio, March 2, 1881, a son of William and Elizabeth (Applegate) McClellan. On the maternal side he comes of Revolutionary stock, and his mother's uncle, John Applegate, fought as a Union soldier during the war between the States and rose to the rank of colonel. William and Elizabeth McClellan had three sons: J. P., a postoffice inspector in the United States Government service; Dr. H. E., a dental practitioner at Wyoming, Ohio, and Dr. Hugh C. Hugh C. McClellan received his primary education at Goshen, and after his graduation from the high school there began the pursuit of his dental studies in a college at Cincinnati. When he was graduated therefrom with his degree, he commenced practice at Cincinnati, but in 1914 came to Piqua, where he has since carried on his practice with much success, having well-appointed offices and laboratory at 312½ North Main street. His patronage is liberal and representative, and he stands high in his profession as a close student, capable practitioner and a strict observer of the best professional ethics. During the period of the war, Doctor McClellan was not only active in his support of all wartime measures and movements, but also joined the Dental Preparedness League and gave free service to many men enlisted in the army and navy. He is a member of St. Paul's church, as is also Mrs. McClellan, who was formerly Miss Louise Zorn, of Sidney, Ohio.

John McClain. For thirty-one years John McClain has been known as one of the sound and reliable business citizens of Troy, where he has also rendered valuable service to the community as mayor and in other public positions. He was born at Alliance, Stark county, Ohio, in 1859, a son of John and Anna (Doyle) McClain. There were six children in the family: Daniel, James, Thomas, John, Michael and Mrs. Maggie McPherson. John McClain obtained his education through attendance at the Alliance public schools, after leaving which he secured a position as sales-

man in a retail business of his native city. With ten years of experience behind him and the small capital which he had laboriously accumulated, he established himself in business as the proprietor of a small dry goods store at Alliance, which he carefully built up to a paying proposition before selling out and coming to Troy about 1889. Here he embarked in the dry goods and general merchandise business and at the present time has an up-to-date establishment with a full line of goods, which enjoys an excellent patronage among the representative people of the city. Mr. McClain is a capable business man and courteous merchant, and has various other connections, being a director in the First National Bank and treasurer of the Troy Telephone Company. He was a member of the board of public service for four years and after serving as city councilman for two years was elected mayor of Troy, a capacity in which he acted very capably for four years, during which time he was instrumental in the promulgation and successful carrying through of a number of constructive movements. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Mr. McClain married Louise, daughter of James and Elizabeth Lydell, of Cleveland, Ohio, and to this union there have been born seven children: John, William, Harold, Frank, Carroll, Howard and Helen. Harold McClain served with the Three Hundred and Ninth Engineers during the great World war and saw twelve months of overseas service.

Col. William L. Marlin. One of the families which traces its ancestry back to the pioneer settlers of the vicinity of Covington is that bearing the name of Marlin, members of which have been prominent in professional and public life, in agriculture and merchandise, in military and civic affairs. A worthy representative of this family is found in Col. William L. Marlin, of Covington, a veteran of the World war in which he established a record for distinguished service that brought him praise and commendation from all sides. Colonel Marlin was born at Covington October 17, 1882, a son of A. L. and Emma F. (Bowdle) Marlin. The family is of Scotch-Irish origin and was founded early in the State of Pennsylvania, whence came Joseph Marlin, the grandfather of Colonel Marlin, to become a pioneer resident in the vicinity of Covington. The Bowdle family also furnished pioneers to the State of Ohio, who settled near Lima and Chillicothe. A. L. Marlin was a school teacher throughout his life and a man who was held in respect and esteem. There were only two children in his family: Harley, a theatrical man, and William L. The latter received his education in the public schools of Eureka, Kans., to which community his parents had removed when he was a child, but in 1898 returned to Ohio, where he completed his schooling. As a young man he learned the trade of printer and subsequently became editor and owner of the Covington Tribune-Gazette. After joining the National Guard, Colonel Marlin went to California for a time, but later returned to Ohio and in 1911 was made captain. In 1917 he was promoted to major of the Third Battalion, Third Ohio Infan-



COL. WILLIAM L. MARLIN



try, and became a deep student of military tactics. When the Mexican trouble presented itself as a serious problem, Major Marlin's command was hastened to the border, where he saw some active service, and this prepared him in part for the work that lay in front of his contingent overseas. When he went to France it was with the One Hundred and Forty-eighth Infantry, in the Thirty-seventh division. For distinguished service he was appointed lieutenant-colonel, November 1, 1918. He commanded troops at St. Mihiel, Oisne, in the Belgium campaign, and during the Lys-Escaut campaign his conduct elicited the praise of foreign high officers directing the drive across the Escaut river. He was chosen to command the American troops escorting the king and queen of Belgium on their official re-entry into Brussels. A complete record of the military history of Colonel Marlin will be found in the history of Miami county, elsewhere in this work. Colonel Marlin married Ella, daughter of James Franklin and Lettie Ellen (Beatty) Stevens, and to this union there have been born three children, of whom two are living: Leona Marie and Robert F. Lincoln, and one son, Loyd Richard, died, age eighteen, March 23, 1919. Colonel Marlin helped organize the American Legion and was an officer in the organization. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Red Men, and attends the Presbyterian church.

Samuel G. McKnight, who is justly entitled to be classed with the progressive and substantial agricultural element of Spring Creek township, was born on a farm in Shelby county, Ohio, a son of Joseph McKnight. His father, who was a farmer in Shelby county for some years, immigrated to Miami county in 1867 and spent the rest of an industrious and useful life in the pursuits of the soil here. He was highly respected for his straightforwardness in business matters and his good citizenship. Samuel G. McKnight was a child when brought by his parents to Miami county and his education was acquired in the public schools which he attended during the winter terms, while the summer months were passed in assisting his father on the home place. On reaching his majority, he embarked in operations on his own account, and his life has been devoted uninterruptedly to farming. Mr. McKnight has a well-cultivated and splendidly improved property of eighty acres, on which he grows all the standard crops of the locality and raises a good grade of cattle. His citizenship has been of a high order, and during the World war period he demonstrated his loyalty by his support of all war movements. Mr. McKnight is unmarried.

James W. McClure, a well-known plumber and dealer in electrical fixtures at Tiptecanoe City, is one of the substantial business men of his community. He was born at Iola, Kans., September 17, 1870, a son of William H. and Charlotte (Neff) McClure. His father, a native of Ohio, was a soldier during the Civil war, who served fifty-eight months as a member of Company A, Seventy-first regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. At the close of the war he went to Kansas, where he rounded out an honorable career. James

W. McClure, one of a family of five children, secured his education in the public schools of Iola, Kans., and in 1889 came to Tippecanoe City and began learning the trade of plumber and steamfitter with an uncle, Fred Hogendorfer. He remained with him as his employe, assistant and associate until about 1910, when he assumed full control of the business, and in addition to conducting a well-established plumbing and tinning business, installed a complete line of electrical fixtures. January 1, 1919, Mr. McClure took two partners, the Schultz brothers. Mr. McClure has taken an active and helpful part in civic affairs, and during the past twenty years has been chief of the Tippecanoe City fire department. He was a liberal contributor to all war movements and has played the role of a public-spirited citizen when progressive enterprises have been launched. As a fraternalist he belongs to the Masons, in which he has advanced to membership in the commandery; the Modern Woodmen of America and the Woodmen of the World, in all of which he is popular and has numerous friends. Mr. McClure married Gusta, daughter of Henry Eickmeyer, of Tippecanoe City, and to this union there has been born one son, Clyde, who is now attending the Ohio State University and specializes in chemical engineering.

Rev. A. J. Mentink, priest of St. Patrick's Catholic Church of Troy, Ohio, was born in Cincinnati, December 11, 1877, a son of Anthony and Rosalia (Weitershager) Mentink. There were ten children in the family. Those living are: Mary, now a sister of the order of St. Francis; A. J.; Rosalia, at home; Hugo A.; Anna B., and Ray. A. J. Mentink attended St. Gregory's preparatory seminary and Mount St. Mary's Seminary of the West, Cincinnati, and after his ordination, was assigned to St. Anthony's Church, Cincinnati. He came to Troy March 30, 1906, to accept his present charge, and since he began his pastorate, many notable improvements have been made, including the handsome new church which was erected at an approximate cost of \$60,000, and for which Father Mentink personally designed in plaster of Paris an exact miniature model; also the new parochial residence. He is now considering plans for a fine modern school building. Father Mentink's clerical jurisdiction is of no small extent, and the learned and pious pastor has gained for himself an enviable popularity, and the well-merited love and esteem of his parishioners. He is a fourth degree member of the Piqua Council, Knights of Columbus.

William Michael. Representing the third generation of his family to engage in agricultural pursuits in Miami county, William Michael is numbered among the progressive and prosperous farmers and public-spirited citizens of Monroe township. He has passed his entire life in this community, having been born on the farm which he now owns and operates, November 26, 1859, a son of Harvey and Mary (Honeyman) Michael. His parents had five children: Warren; Arizona, who is the wife of Joseph Austin, of Michigan; Renie Belle, who died when twenty-one years of age, and Orrie, who died in infancy. William Michael secured his edu-

cation in the public schools of Monroe township, and was reared on the home farm, which he has never left. He assisted his father until he was twenty-one years of age, after which he began working for the elder man, at whose death he secured a part of the home place. He now owns forty acres, all in a good state of development, and has modern improvements and commodious buildings. His operations are being carried on according to practical and progressive plans and his careful management and intelligent use of modern equipment are combining to make his land pay him well for the labor which he expends upon it. Mr. Michael married, May 26, 1881, Emma, daughter of Rev. Philip and Mary (Whaley) Clark, Rev. Clark being an ordained minister of the Christian church and a well-known agriculturist of Monroe township, and to this union there has been born one daughter, Minnie, now the wife of Ollis Welbaum, of Bethel township, Miami county. Mr. Michael has always been noted for his public spirit and for his unwavering support of movements and enterprises which promise to be of benefit to his community and its people. In business circles his name is synonymous with integrity and the friendships which he established in his youth have stood the test of years.

D. M. Miller. A resident of this county for a period of twenty-two years, D. M. Miller has unfailingly sustained the most intelligent and practical interests of the community, and has contributed to its development through his labors in the cultivation of a highly improved farm in Bethel township. Mr. Miller was born in Darke county, Ohio, January 9, 1871, a son of Michael and Abigail (Martin) Miller, farming people who passed their entire lives in Darke county, where they were numbered among the successful and progressive people of their locality. He acquired his education through attendance at the rural district schools during the winter terms, in the summer months assisting his father in the work of the home place, and when he reached manhood left the parental roof to engage in ventures of his own. After a short time he was attracted to Miami county by the opportunities presented here for success to young men of ambition and industry and settled in Bethel township, where he has since worked out a well-merited and substantial success. He now has a fertile property of 156 acres, and another farm in the same township of 106 acres, both with numerous modern improvements, including a comfortable and commodious home on Tippecanoe City R. F. D. No. 1, and in the gaining of his success has so conducted himself as to win and hold the confidence of his fellow-citizens. His actions during the period of the World war were those of a loyal and public-spirited citizen, and in civic affairs he has always been found on the side of progress. Mr. Miller married, April 14, 1895, Henrietta Rensch, who belongs to an agricultural family of Miami county, a daughter of P. B. and Catherine (Bashore) Rensch, natives of Ohio, the latter of whom died in 1875. Mr. Rensch now resides with his son-in-law, Mr. Miller, and wife. To the latter have been born five children: Maude, the wife of Ray Barnhart, who trained for service in the World war at

Columbus barracks and other camps, and is now engaged in farming in Miami county. They have two children: Thelma Eileen and Leila May; Russell, attending the North Manchester College; Ruby and Ralph, who are residing with their parents and attending school. The family attends the Church of the Brethren.

Edward Miller, who is well and prominently known in business circles as a contractor in electrical wiring, etc., was born at Troy, in 1883, and has passed his entire life in this city, which has been the scene of his training, educational and otherwise, and of his success in business matters. His father, Floyd Miller, was an agriculturist throughout his life and a man of practical ideas and sound industry, as well as a citizen who commanded respect because of his integrity. He married Caroline Siegel, who also came of an agricultural family of this region, and they became the parents of two sons: Edward and W. J. The latter served in Company A, One Hundred and Forty-eighth regiment, Thirty-seventh division, during the recent World war, and won promotion from second to first lieutenant. He went overseas with his command and was at the front for an extended period, until he was wounded during the fighting in the Argonne district. Edward Miller received his educational training in the graded and high schools of Troy, and learned the electrician's trade in the plant of the Hobart Manufacturing Company. May 17, 1919, he embarked in the electrical contracting business on his own account, and when his brother, W. J., returned from overseas, he formed a partnership with him in August, 1919. Among the many large contracts which this firm has undertaken and which it has carried through to a successful conclusion may be mentioned the Troy Carriage Sunshade Company, Braun Brothers Packing House, New Gerkins Oil Station, Electric Oven Outfit and power installation for the Troy Carriage Sunshade Company. The concern carries on a general electrical business in addition to accepting large contracts and its work has been so successful and superior in workmanship that the brothers have firmly established themselves in business and public confidence. Edward Miller married Ethel, daughter of Michael and Margaret Bayes, and to their union there have been born four children: Wilbur, James, Robert and Helen. Mr. Miller is fraternally affiliated with the local lodges of the Masons and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He was prominent in all movements promoted by the administration during the recent great war period.

Preston H. Miller, who has been identified with business affairs at Tippecanoe City since 1883, and since 1912 has been the proprietor of a paint, wall paper and music house, was born in Montgomery county, Ohio, July 13, 1852, a son of Richard and Mary Ann (Weaver) Miller. The Miller family is one which has an excellent military record. Mr. Miller's grandfather was a soldier during the War of 1812, and five of his sons fought in the Civil war. Richard Miller was a volunteer in the Thirty-fifth regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for three years during the



EDWARD MILLER

struggle between the North and the South. At the close of the war he returned to Montgomery county, Ohio, where he passed the rest of his life in agricultural pursuits. One of a family of eight children, Preston H. Miller secured his education in the public schools of Butler township, Montgomery county, and at Bethel, and worked on the home farm with his father until he was twenty-five years of age. In 1883 he came to Tippecanoe City and began working as a painter and decorator, a line which he followed without cessation for more than a quarter of a century. In 1912 Mr. Miller opened his present business establishment, where he deals in paints, oils, wall paper and music, and has built up a large and profitable business. Mr. Miller's first marriage was to Laura, daughter of Samuel Sullivan, of Tippecanoe City, and to this union there was born one son, Lawrence, now an electrician at Seattle, Wash. During the World war, Lawrence Miller was engaged in Government work as an electrician at the Washington navy yard. Mr. Miller's present wife was formerly Sarah Jane, daughter of Lewis Franch, of Montgomery county, and to this union there were born four children: Lewis, Robert, Everett, and Edna, the wife of Waldo Weaver, of Franklin, Ohio. Lewis Miller volunteered in the Third Ohio regiment during the World war, as a mechanic in the air service, and saw overseas service in France. Robert Miller was also with the Third Ohio regiment, Thirty-seventh division, went overseas to France, where he remained nine months, and was one of the first to enter Belgium with the victorious American forces. During the bloody fighting on the Argonne front he volunteered for the highly dangerous and important duty of courier, and while thus engaged was shell-shocked and gassed. Lewis and Robert Miller are now associated with their father in business at Tippecanoe City. Everett Miller volunteered in the regular army and served on the Mexican border for six months, after which he obtained his discharge from that branch of the service and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. During the remainder of the war period he was stationed at San Domingo. Since receiving his honorable discharge he has been in charge of a store at Lansing, Mich. The sons of Mr. Miller have thus maintained the splendid military record of the family, and are all young men who are energetic and progressive, and who are highly popular in their several communities. Mr. Miller is a citizen who has always contributed his share to the betterment and advancement of his community, and whose integrity in business affairs has won him the respect and confidence of those with whom he has been associated.

S. S. Miller, one of the substantial citizens of Covington and former secretary of the German Baptist Mutual Insurance Association, was born in Darke county, Ohio, December 23, 1867, a son of Noah and Jane (Ullery) Miller. The Miller family originated in Pennsylvania, whence came the paternal grandfather of S. S. Miller, John C. Miller, who settled in Montgomery county, Ohio, and cleared the land upon which the town of Salem now stands. He was a lifelong farmer, as was also his son, Noah, and both were

held in the greatest esteem in their several communities. The Ullery family belonged to the pioneer residents of the vicinity of Covington and among its members was the distinguished Colonel Ullery. S. S. Miller was reared as a farmer's son and attended school in Adams township, Darke county. Subsequently, he taught school in the country districts for three years and then became identified with the German Baptist Mutual Insurance Association, which is now known as the Buckeye State Mutual Insurance Association. In 1897 he became secretary of this company, in which capacity he served seven years, a full history of the growth and development of which will be found in the Covington section of the general history of Miami county, elsewhere in this work. Mr. Miller has been a director of the First National Bank of Bradford since the inception of that institution and has a number of important civic and social connections. He married Mariah, daughter of Devault and Catherine (Zerbe) Crowell, of Darke county, and to this union there have been born three children: B. Claire, who married Cora Hazlett, and has two children, Faith Eileen and Dorothy; Miriam, who resides with her parents, and a daughter, Lela Fern, who died at the age of seven years. J. Alverton Crowell, a brother of Mrs. Miller, was formerly superintendent of the public schools of Bradford, and first cashier of the First National Bank of that place. Later he organized the junior high school of Cleveland, of which he is now principal.

W. C. Mong, at the head of the plumbing business at Piqua conducted as Mong & Son, is a practical heating engineer and authorized agent for all American Radiator Company products, and an Ohioan by birth. When he was a child his parents removed to Salina, Ohio, where his father, David Mong, a native of Butler county, conducted a plumbing business and where the youth gained his first knowledge of the trade. W. C. Mong studied the technical phases of heating and plumbing engineering and subsequently became an engineer for the Quapaw Company, of Bartlesville, Okla. In the meantime, in 1906, his father had come to Piqua and established himself in business, and when he died, November 6, 1917, W. C. Mong took up his residence at this city, succeeding his father as the head of the firm of Mong & Son, plumbers and heaters, at 601 North Main street. Mr. Mong has installed a number of heating systems in centralized schools, including schools in Miami county, one of which is the modern Bethel township school, also at Urbana and in the county of Montgomery. He is known as one of the most efficient men in his line in his part of the State and his business has grown to large and important proportions. Mr. Mong is an Elk, Pythian and Odd Fellow. He belongs to the Christian church.

Frank Corr Montross. The lumber interests of Miami county are well and worthily represented at Troy by Frank Corr Montross, junior member of the Francis-Montross Lumber Company. Mr. Montross was born at Sloan, Woodbury county, Iowa, a son of G. D. and Ida May (Corr) Montross, the former a well-known

pharmacist of Sloan, and the latter a niece of Judge Edwin Corr, of the Supreme Court of Indiana. There were five children in the family: Lila, George Lloyd, Marie, who was formerly a high school teacher; Grace, and Frank Corr. Frank C. Montross was given good educational advantages, for after he had attended the graded and high schools at Sloan, Iowa, he went to college at Grinnell, Iowa, for two years, and completed his educational training at the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor. He received his introduction to the lumber business in Nebraska, from where he went to Sioux City, Iowa, and there applied himself to the business until coming to Troy, in 1914. At that time he formed a partnership with W. H. Francis, who has been well known as a lumberman and financier of this community for many years. The Francis-Montross Lumber Company has enjoyed a steady and healthy growth and is at this time accounted one of the thriving and prosperous business institutions of this enterprising community. Mr. Montross has impressed himself upon his associates as a man of marked business capacity, who is thoroughly familiar with every detail of the lumber trade. He married Sarah Lorene, daughter of Joseph E. Robbins, of Sac City, Iowa, whose other four children were: Eva, Joseph, Clementine and Clarence. To Mr. and Mrs. Montross there has been born one daughter, Sarah Elizabeth. Mr. Montross is a Mason and has numerous business, social and civic connections.

Anson Mote, senior member of the grocery firm of Mote & Son, of Piqua, is a man of wide experience and marked versatility who has grown into prominence with the development of his community, where he has been a leading citizen for many years. He was born on a farm in Union township, Miami county, Ohio, October 28, 1861, a son of Ezekiel and Mary (Rhodehamel) Mote, his parents being worthy and highly respected people, the father by trade a wagon maker. Anson Mote was educated in Union township and after leaving school took up the work of farming for several years. Being commercially inclined, he moved to Piqua, where he established himself in the grocery business at the corner of Park and Washington avenues, remaining there until 1914, when he occupied his present place of business at No. 126 West Ash street. This is now one of the largest and finest stores in Miami county, carrying a full and up-to-date line of staple and fancy groceries, meats, delicatessen products, pastries, etc., and is operated under the name of Mote & Son, Mr. Mote's son, Lescar, now being a member of the firm. Mr. Mote is a highly respected business man whose associations are important and who has fairly won a reputation for conservatism and fair dealing. He is fraternally affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Junior Order of United American Mechanics. In the period of the great war his was a prominent part in the support of local measures, and he also has been careful and efficient in the discharge of the duties of citizenship during days of peace and has served one term in the city council. He is fond of travel, when his business responsibilities

are not too pressing, and for one year was a resident of California. He belongs to the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church to which also belongs Mrs. Mote, who is active in social affairs and who was prominent in Red Cross work during the war. She was Eveline, daughter of William Pierson, and they have had six children: Lescar, of the firm of Mote & Son; Sharon, who was commissioned lieutenant at Fort Benjamin Harrison and saw two years of service in the army during the war; Raymond, who is a teacher at the Piqua High School; Hilda, at home; Neva, a graduate of the General Hospital at Cincinnati, and Lela, who died aged fifteen years.

W. J. Miller, junior partner of the electrical contracting firm of Edward Miller Electric Company, at Troy, is a veteran of the great World war and one of those who bear upon their bodies the scars of wounds received in the fierce fighting of the bloody Argonne district. Mr. Miller was born at Troy, Ohio, a son of Floyd and Caroline (Siegel) Miller, the latter of whom belonged to a family of farming people well known at Troy. Floyd Miller, who was an agriculturist, passed his life in Miami county, where he won respect and esteem by his industry, integrity and good citizenship. He and his estimable wife were the parents of two sons: Edward, who founded the present electrical contracting business, and W. J. W. J. Miller received his primary educational training in the graded and high schools of Troy, and after his graduation from the latter became a student at Miami University. There he received his degree of Bachelor of Arts as a member of the graduating class of 1914, and at that time adopted the educator's profession. After teaching school for a short time he was made principal of the high school at Marseilles and Casstown, and also, from 1915 to 1916, served as city editor of the Troy Daily Record. May 29, 1917, he enlisted in Miami county Company A, of the One Hundred and Forty-eighth regiment, Thirty-seventh division, American Expeditionary Forces. He was trained at Camp Sheridan, where he was commissioned second lieutenant December 27, 1917, and was promoted to first lieutenant at Camp Lee. He went overseas with the Thirty-seventh division and fought with that command until he fell seriously wounded during the fighting in the Argonne district, when he was wounded in five places by the bursting of a shell. After three days of treatment at a field hospital he was removed to a base hospital, where he lay until recovered, and July 25, 1919, was honorably discharged, arriving home some time later. August 1, 1919, he entered partnership with his brother in the electrical contracting business at Troy, and this concern has been very successful and now controls a large amount of valuable business. Mr. Miller was first post adjutant of Clifford Thompson Post, American Legion. He married Frances Wright, of Oxford, Ohio, who had taught school at Troy for four years, and who had likewise been a student at Miami University, her husband's Alma Mater. Mr. Miller is a member of Franklin Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons.



WALTER J. MILLER

Charles F. Moyer, a well-known citizen and prominent and prosperous farmer of Newberry township, where his entire life has been passed, was born on his father's farm in this township, in 1879, a son of Paul and Mary (Linton) Moyer. The parents of Mr. Moyer, who were sound and substantial people of their community, passed their lives in the pursuits of the soil in this community and, dying in advanced years, left behind many to mourn them, many who had realized and appreciated their many sterling qualities of heart and mind. Mr. Moyer was eldest in a family of four children, the others being: Perry; Emma, now the wife of Thomas Sowders, and Lula. Charles F. Moyer is indebted to the public schools of Newberry township for his educational training. His boyhood and youth, when he was not engaged in his studies, were passed in assisting his father in the work of the home place, and thus he grew to manhood with a fairly good education and a thorough training in the arts and sciences of husbandry. After he had attained his majority he engaged in farming on his own account, and thus he has continued to be occupied ever since, with constantly-growing success. At this time he is the owner of a productive and valuable farm, with good improvements, and is considered one of the representative agriculturists of his locality. During the war period he performed a good citizen's duty in supporting war enterprises. He takes an earnest interest in the cause of education, is a strong supporter of all measures for the public welfare, and is regarded as one of the useful and constructive members of the community. Mr. Moyer married Minnie, daughter of Jacob and Anna (Rhodes) Fessler, whose father was one of the well-known and highly respected farmers of Newberry township for a period of forty-five years. In the Fessler family there were four children: Charles, Louis, Cora and Minnie. Mr. and Mrs. Moyer are the parents of one daughter, Margaret Viola, who makes her home with them on the farm.

Charles Clason Neal. Of the men who have long lent dignity and progressiveness to the vocation of agriculture in Miami county, none are held in higher esteem than C. C. Neal, of Monroe township, whose entire life has been spent in this county and whose industrious labors have resulted in the accumulation of a satisfying competency and the obtaining of a recognized position among the substantial men of his community. Mr. Neal was born in Union township, Miami county, October 25, 1866, a son of Henry and Eliza J. (Bowman) Neal. His father, who followed agricultural pursuits throughout a long and honorable career, was well known in this county as a man of worth and substance and as one of those who offered themselves during the Civil war and who fought bravely in that struggle for the maintenance of the Union. He was captain of Company G, One Hundred and Forty-seventh regiment, Ohio National Guard. C. C. Neal acquired a public school education in the rural districts, the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Antioch College at Yellow Springs, and the National Normal School at Lebanon, Ohio, and was reared as a farmer's son. He

took up agriculture as his vocation at the time of the attainment of his majority, which was at his father's death, and at this time he has a well-cultivated property in Monroe township, with a comfortable and attractive home located on Tippecanoe City R. F. D. No. 3, inherited from his grandfather who acquired it during the '40s. His implements and general improvements have been profit by the experience of others, rather than one who recklessly bows down to the novelty of invention. In his citizenship Mr. Neal evidences his belief in forward movements, and during the World war his support was not lacking when appeals were made in behalf of the various drives. Mr. Neal married, July 12, 1897, Rose K., daughter of Robert and Regina (Steckley) Pearson, and to this union have come three children: Mildred, Regina and Clason. Mr. Neal's married life has been a particularly happy one, and the rare friendship begun between himself and wife in their youth has but strengthened with the trials and successes of the years.

John M. Neher. For a number of years Bethel township has profited by the energy and good judgment of John M. Neher, who operates a farm on Tippecanoe City R. F. D. No. 4. During his occupancy Mr. Neher has added to the improvements of the former owner and has conducted his general farming and stock-raising operations along practical and modern lines. He was born in Miami county, a son of A. S. and Fannie (Holinger) Neher, natives of Ohio, who passed their lives in agricultural operations. Mr. Neher was given the advantages of a public school education in the rural districts and his entire training in boyhood and youth was along the lines of agriculture. When he reached man's estate it was but natural that he should adopt farming as his vocation and this he has followed uninterruptedly, his industry and intelligent use of modern methods resulting gratifyingly in the development of a good property in Bethel township. He has a pleasant home and substantial barns and outbuildings and his equipment suggests his appreciation of labor-saving machinery. He has public-spiritedly supported movements calculated to be of civic benefit, and during the World war period was captain of his district in the war chest and Liberty Loan drives. Mr. Neher was united in marriage, December 16, 1909, with Daisy, daughter of Peter H. and Anna (Dear) Uhrig, and a granddaughter of a Union soldier of the Civil war, and to this union there have been born three children: Lorin, Richard and Anna Louise.

Louis C. Neth, senior member of the firm of Neth & Stelzer, tailors, haberdashers and hatters of Piqua, is numbered among the substantial men of the city. He was born at Piqua, September 17, 1875, a son of Louis and Margaret (Brehm) Neth, his father being a minister of the Methodist church who filled pulpits at Piqua, Greenville, Richmond and Sidney. He and his wife were the parents of eight children, and two of their grandsons, John Lloyd, son of John A. Neth, and Walter E., son of Wm. G. Neth, served as soldiers of the American Expeditionary Force during the recent great war. Louis C. Neth attended the schools at Piqua and before

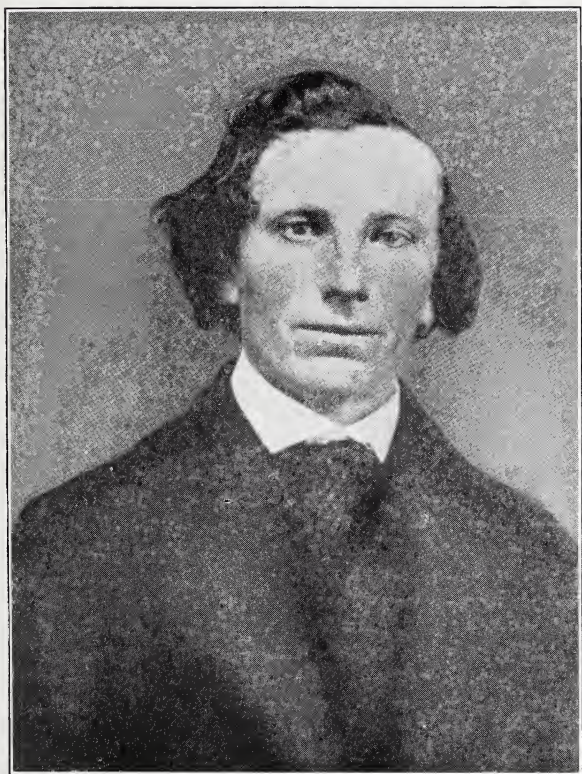
finishing his high school education began to secure business experience as an employe of a mercantile concern. He continued to work in the interests of others until 1910, when, with Louis J. Stelzer, he formed the firm of Neth & Stelzer, a partnership. This concern deals in gentlemen's high-class furnishings, hats, haberdashery and made-to-order clothing, and an excellent business has been built up. Mr. Neth is thoroughly conversant with every department of his line of business, and is a man of ability, judgment and good taste. He married Mamie C., daughter of Byron Crampton, of Covington, Ohio, and they are the parents of two children: Frank A. and Robert G. Mr. and Mrs. Neth took a helpful part in various war activities and are consistent members of the Wayne and Greene Street Methodist churches, respectively. Mr. Neth is interested in fraternal work, and belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Knights of the Golden Eagle and the Junior Order of United American Mechanics.

J. W. Norris & Son. Among the well-known grocery firms of Troy, one which traces its inception here back to 1889 is that of J. W. Norris & Son. This business was founded thirty-two years ago by the senior member of the firm, J. W. Norris, whose long career has been characterized by honorable dealings and the achievement of a satisfying success. Mr. Norris married Nannie E. Curtis, and they became the parents of two sons: Carl Alvin and Robert, the latter a high school student at Troy. Carl Alvin Norris was born at Troy, November 14, 1892, and entered upon his career at the end of his school days as his father's assistant. He likewise pursued a course at the Cincinnati College of Embalming, but preferred the grocery business as the medium through which to work out his success, and has become one of the thoroughly informed grocers of his city. At the time of his admission to the firm, in 1913, the present business style was adopted, and this house has built up a substantial reputation for honest representation and fair transactions. During the war period the firm of J. W. Norris & Son was a substantial contributor to all movements, both local and national. Carl A. Norris is a member of the Masonic order, in which he has attained the Knight Templar degree, thirty-second and Shrine.

George M. O'Donnell, a substantial business man of Covington, where he is agent for the Ohio Fuel Supply Company, was born at Mount Gilead, Morrow county, Ohio, August 9, 1872, a son of James and Mary (Williams) O'Donnell. James O'Donnell was born in Ireland and immigrated to the United States in young manhood, adopting the vocation of monument engraver. This he followed with success at various places, including Washington Court House, where he lived for one year, and then went to Mount Gilead, where he worked at his trade until one year before his death, when he moved to Washington Court House and there died, December 22, 1878. He and his worthy wife were the parents of three children: James Guy, city attorney of Covington; Carrie, the wife of William Kienle, of Dayton, and George M. The mother of these

children was a native of Morrow county. George M. O'Donnell received his education in the public school at Mount Gilead, and when less than fifteen years of age, April 1, 1887, started to learn the trade of baker at Troy. His parents moved to Covington October 1, 1887, and he joined them here May 1, 1888, completing his apprenticeship to his trade here and working in a grocery for eight or nine years. About January 31, 1915, Mr. O'Donnell became agent for the Ohio Fuel Supply Company at Covington and this position he has retained to the present time, having had satisfying success in his operations. In addition to the prominence that attaches to his name because of the importance of his business activities, Mr. O'Donnell has become well known throughout the splendid service which he has rendered in positions of public trust. He was township clerk for fourteen years, clerk and member of the board of education of the Covington district, clerk of the board of education of Newberry township, also corporation clerk of Covington, and otherwise identified with civic government. His public record is an excellent one, matching his reputation for integrity in business life. He is a member of the Covington Lodge, No. 168, Free and Accepted Masons, and Covington Chapter, No. 115, Royal Arch Masons, the Red Men and Junior Order of United American Mechanics. He belongs to the Presbyterian church. Mr. O'Donnell was active in the various war movements and worked faithfully as a member of all local committees. He married Margaret, daughter of Morton Steinhilber, of Covington, and they are the parents of three children: Mary, the wife of Rev. William M. Brandt, of Tuscarawas, Ohio; Guy Franklin, connected with the Hobart Manufacturing Company, of Troy, and Lorena, who married Donovan J. Hill, of Covington. He is associated with The Hobart Manufacturing Company, of Troy, and there they reside.

William R. Mumford. One of the oldest native-born residents of Elizabeth township is William R. Mumford, who has passed his entire life on his present farm. His career from early manhood has been one of honorable achievement and good citizenship and the reputation which he established and the friendships that he made during his early life have stood the test of years. Mr. Mumford was born on his present farm in Elizabeth township, June 7, 1841, a son of John and Mary (Crawmer) Mumford. His father, a native of Maryland, was a young man when he migrated to Miami county, and almost immediately settled in Elizabeth township, where he met and married Miss Crawmer. They rounded out long, honorable and useful lives in the pursuits of agriculture and when they died their community lost two of its most highly respected and beloved people. There were eight children in their family, of whom but two survive: William R., and Mary J., who has never married, and who now lives with her brother on the old home place. The educational training of William R. Mumford was acquired in the public schools of his native locality and his boyhood and youth were devoted to his studies and the work of the home farm. When he reached his majority he adopted farming as his life work, and



WILLIAM R. MUMFORD

his entire career has been devoted to the property which he now owns and operates. This consists of 160 acres and is a well-cultivated and productive tract on which Mr. Mumford has made many improvements. In young manhood, Mr. Mumford was united in marriage with Olivia, daughter of John Schindler, a highly regarded agriculturist of Elizabeth township. Mrs. Mumford died September 29, 1876, leaving four children: Irwin, engaged in farming near the home place, who married Susan Drake; Eben, in charge of an agricultural college at Lansing, Mich., who married Luella M. Horn; Viola, who died when sixteen years of age, and Olivia, who died when two and one-half years old. Mr. Mumford has been a good citizen and one who has aided his community in numerous ways. The cause of education has found him a faithful and useful friend, and since he was twenty-one years of age he has served as a member of the local board of school directors. His contributions to war movement funds were generous and his support of local enterprises has been loyal.

V. D. Mumford, a capable and worthy representative of the farming and stock-raising interests of Miami county, is carrying on successful operations on a well-cultivated property located in Elizabeth township. He is a native of this county, born November 14, 1891, a son of George and Ellen (Boswell) Mumford, long-time residents of this part of the Miami valley and people highly esteemed by their associates. Mr. Mumford was educated in the public school in the neighborhood of the home place and grew to manhood in a family where honesty and industry were highly valued. When he reached man's estate he engaged in farming operations on his own account, and for a number of years has farmed his property in Elizabeth township, a tract upon which he has erected good buildings and made many substantial improvements. He has always taken a good citizen's part in civic affairs, being a loyal and liberal supporter of good movements, and this was particularly noticeable during the war period, no worthy cause being refused assistance at his hands. Mr. Mumford was united in marriage, January 21, 1914, with Mae, daughter of Walter and Jennie (Edemiller) Tobias, and they have four children: Cecil L., Bernice M., Roger O. and Florence A. The pleasant and commodious home of Mr. and Mrs. Mumford is located on Casstown R. F. D. No. 2.

James Guy O'Donnell, a prominent member of the Miami county bar, city attorney of Covington for twenty years and one of the leading fraternalists of this part of the State, was born at Mount Gilead, Morrow county, Ohio, April 28, 1875, a son of James and Mary (Williams) O'Donnell, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Morrow county. James O'Donnell was a young man when he immigrated to the United States and became a monument engraver, a vocation which he followed for many years at Mount Gilead and Washington Court House, where he died in 1878. He and his wife were the parents of three children: Carrie, the wife of William Kienle, of Dayton; George M., an agent for

the Ohio Fuel Supply Company at Covington, and James G. James Guy O'Donnell attended the public schools of Covington, graduating therefrom in 1893, after which he began the study of law in the office of the late Judge William C. Johnston, of Piqua. Admitted to the Ohio bar October 18, 1896, he opened an office at Covington January 15, 1897, and in May, 1899, was admitted to practice in the federal courts. From 1902 to 1911 he was associated with T. A. Billingsley, who practiced at Versailles, Ohio, the firm being O'Donnell & Billingsley, but in the latter year the partnership was dissolved when Mr. O'Donnell was elected prosecuting attorney of Miami county, a position to which he was re-elected, serving in all four years. For twenty years he has also been city attorney of Covington. Mr. O'Donnell's practice is large and important, and he is general attorney for the Dayton, Toledo & Chicago Railway, general attorney and director of the Stillwater Telephone and Telegraph Company and attorney for the Stillwater Valley Bank. During the recent war period he was untiringly active in behalf of the various campaigns for war funds. Few men of this locality are more prominent in fraternal circles. He belongs to the Masonic blue lodge at Covington, the Royal Arch Chapter at Troy, the Royal and Select Masters, of Troy, Coleman Commandery, Knights Templar, Troy, and Dayton Consistory, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Dayton, and is a Noble of the Mystic Shrine, belonging to Antioch Temple of Dayton. He also holds membership in the Eastern Star at Troy, where he belongs likewise to the Odd Fellows lodge and encampment. He is a member of the Junior Order United American Mechanics, Covington council, and is past exalted ruler of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, holding membership in Piqua lodge. He is past great sachem of the Improved Order of Red Men and during the past six years has been one of the six representatives from Ohio to the Great Council of the United States. At this time he is acting high priest of the chapter of the Royal Arch Masons now being organized at Covington. With his family, Mr. O'Donnell belongs to the Presbyterian church. He married Emma T., daughter of Peter S. Colbert, of Miami county, and they have two sons: Jay Guy, a graduate of Covington High School, class of 1920, and now a student at Ohio State University, and Roger C., a Junior in that school.

W. L. O'Roark. Among the business citizens of Covington who have developed important enterprises from small beginnings here, one who is well known and greatly respected is W. L. O'Roark, proprietor of a thriving and flourishing milling business. Mr. O'Roark is a son of James O'Roark and was born in Virginia, where he received his education in the public schools and learned the trade of milling, a business which he followed for some years in the Old Dominion State. Feeling that opportunities for success were greater in the West, he came to Covington and established himself in business on his present site, first installing a water power, modern roller process mill, and has built up a splendid

business, maintaining friendly and mutually profitable relations with the agriculturists and the buying public. His mill's capacity is one hundred barrels per day, for which there is a constant demand, and the "Pride of Covington" brand has found much favor wherever distributed. Mr. O'Roark is a public-spirited citizen who gives his support to all worthy measures, local or national, but has not cared for public life, preferring to devote himself to his business affairs. He married Miss Anna McGoon, also a native of Virginia, and they have been the parents of eight children: James, a progressive business man of Covington, who is associated with his father in milling; Josephine, the wife of Harry Beard, of Covington; John, who is deceased, and Frank, Jesse, Catherine, Virginia and Ada, who reside with their parents in the pleasant family home. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the United Commercial Travelers and the Woodmen of the World. He is a member of the Christian church.

Ray H. Parsons, a capable and reliable young business citizen of Tippecanoe City, and junior member of the firm of Smith & Parsons, dealers in automobiles and implements, and proprietors of a leading garage business, was born at Fairfield, Ohio, April 5, 1889, a son of George Truman and Matilda Belle (Heffner) Parsons. The grandfather of Mr. Parsons was a soldier in a cavalry regiment in the Union Army during the Civil war, enlisting in the 100-day service. Before the end of his term of enlistment, he was thrown from his horse and incapacitated for further service. He spent the rest of the active years of his life in farming, and is still living at the age of eighty-four years. For many years George Truman Parsons was engaged in agricultural pursuits, later becoming proprietor of a hotel at Phoneton, which he conducted with success. At this time he is identified with the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, at Phoneton. He and his wife were the parents of five children: Guy T., the proprietor of a grocery at Tippecanoe City; Daisy M., the wife of Joseph Snell, a farmer of Miami county; John C., now the partner of his brother, Guy, who enlisted in the United States Army during the World war and was stationed at Camp Greenleaf, Chattanooga, Tenn., from March, 1917, to May, 1919; Ray H., and Harriet, deceased. Ray H. Parsons secured his education in the public schools of Bethel township, Miami county, and as a youth took up the trade of electrician. He was employed in this line of work for thirteen years, and at the outbreak of the war between the United States and Germany entered the Government service as an electrician at McCook Field, Dayton, Ohio, where he was placed in charge of the telephone maintenance and construction, enumerator systems, etc. He served for nine months, and upon securing his discharge came to Tippecanoe City, where he entered into the garage and farmer supply business with Stanley R. Smith, the concern being founded October 20, 1918, and adopting the business style of Smith & Parsons. The firm now operates a modern garage and sales room, handling Oldsmobile and Chevrolet cars, for which it has

the Tippecanoe City agency, tires, automobile accessories and farm implements, and is doing a large and growing business. Mr. Parsons is a young man of energy and ability and has gained confidence and made many friends since locating at Tippecanoe City. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity. Mr. Parsons married Miss C. M. Link, of Cedarville, and they have two children: Earl Ray, born in 1916, and Carl Edward, born in 1918.

Winfield Scott Pounce. An illuminating illustration of what persistence, industry, integrity and probity will accomplish, when combined with a high sense of moral responsibility, is found in the career of Winfield Scott Pounce, who has steadfastly adhered to his vocation of farming and plastering in Monroe township, on the same property, for a period of forty years. Mr. Pounce was born in Berkeley county, West Virginia, March 30, 1855, a son of John H. and Mary (Leopard) Pounce. His parents and their family, with the exception of Winfield S., came to Miami county in 1872 and settled near Frederickstown. There the parents continued to be engaged in agricultural pursuits during the remainder of their lives and were highly esteemed people of their community. As a boy Winfield Scott Pounce attended the public schools of West Virginia, and when he had completed his education went to Washington, D. C., where he remained until 1875. Hearing favorable reports from the other members of the family as to the desirability of Miami county and the opportunities which it offered, in 1875 he came here and located on the property which he now occupies in Monroe township. Here he has carried on agricultural pursuits and plastering without interruption and has developed into one of the well-to-do farmers of his locality. He has always lived on this farm and has been its chief developer. In this quality of constancy, fixedness of purpose, the undeviating pursuit of a plan of action, is contained the secret of success in multitudes of cases, and to this, in conjunction with the other sterling traits already mentioned, is attributable the creditable and successful career of Mr. Pounce. Mr. Pounce married, February, 19, 1885, Anna, daughter of T. W. and Elizabeth (Shearer) Furnas, the latter of whom had four brothers who served as soldiers of the Union Army during the Civil war, Titus, John, Oliver and Alvin. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Pounce: Edith, who married Jesse Blackburn, and who resides at Wapakoneta, Ohio. They have two children, Laverle and Edwin; Howard, who married Edith Fenters, and they reside in Troy, Ohio; Russell, and Ruth, who married Archie Syler, and they reside at Garland, Ohio. They have one child, Dorothea Eileen. Russell Pounce was educated in the Monroe township school and graduated from the West Milton High school. He then taught school for two years in Union township, Miami county, then entered the Ohio State University, where he spent two terms. He enlisted during the World war, December 17, 1917, in the aviation corps of the United States Army, and after training at Fort Hancock, then Camp Merritt, was assigned to Company B. Seventh Infantry, Third division. He went to France April 1, 1918,



MR. AND MRS. W. S. POINCE



RUSSELL LEE POINCE
KILLED IN ACTION IN FRANCE



and while serving as a member of Company B, at the second battle of the Marne, July 15, 1918, met a hero's death. He was a young man who was greatly popular with his associates, both in and out of the army, and his death occasioned widespread sorrow. W. S. Pounce is a member of the Knight of Pythias lodge and Juniors. He is a member of the Christian church, of which he has been a trustee for over thirty years. In politics he is a Republican, and is a member of the school board.

Daniel W. Pounce. In the fertile valley of the Miami there are numerous farms belonging to natives of West Virginia, and it may be something more than a coincidence that almost without exception these properties are models of their kind and their owners are men of influence and worth in their various communities. Among the farmers who belong to this class, one who merits attention is Daniel W. Pounce, a progressive and successful agriculturist of Monroe township, who was born in Berkeley county, West Virginia, December 25, 1852, a son of John H. and Mary (Leopard) Pounce. John H. Pounce was of Pennsylvania Dutch stock, but resided in West Virginia for a number of years and it was from that State that he came to Ohio in 1872. He followed blacksmithing and farming in the vicinity of Frederickstown, Miami county, during the remainder of his life, and his industry and good management were rewarded by the accumulation of a good property. He was at the time of his death, in 1886, one of his community's substantial men, as well as one who was held in high esteem. He and his worthy wife were the parents of fourteen children, of whom four are still living: John, George, Scott and Daniel W. Daniel W. Pounce received his educational training in the public schools of Berkeley county, West Virginia, and was twenty years of age when he came with his parents to Miami county. He remained here until 1886, in which year he moved to Montgomery county, which was his home and the scene of his activities until 1917. He then returned to Miami county and settled in Monroe township, where he is now the owner of 139 acres of highly productive and valuable land. Mr. Pounce is a skilled agriculturist and thoroughly conversant with all branches of farm work, but has not always followed this vocation. Prior to his marriage he was for twenty years devoted to the blacksmith trade, which he followed in several communities and in which he was accounted an expert workman. As a farmer he has adopted modern methods and has proved his ability by the manner in which he has won success. Mr. Pounce married, November 8, 1885, Miss Nettie Jane, daughter of Samuel and Harriet (Vore) Furnas, and to this union there have been born five children: Ethel and Edna, twins, who died in infancy; Jessie, who married Ernest Littleton, of Montgomery county, who is engaged in the automobile business; Mira, who married John Antonides, a farmer of Union township, and Roscoe, who works with his father on the home place. Daniel W. Pounce served as a justice of the peace in Butler township for four years and his record in that office was an excellent one, entitling him to the confidence

which was given him by his fellow-citizens. He has always supported the movements of good citizenship, and during the recent war period was in charge of his home school district in soliciting war funds.

Tillman F. Palsgrove. One of the recent recruits in commercial affairs at Bloomer is Tillman F. Palsgrove, who, in 1920, after many years spent in agricultural pursuits in Miami and Franklin counties, became the proprietor of a garage at Bloomer. Mr. Palsgrove, who has already taken a position of recognized importance in the business life of the community, was born in Franklin county, Ohio, in 1874, a son of Tillman and Sarah (Whims) Palsgrove. There were four children in the family: William, Tillman F., Altus and George. Tillman F. Palsgrove was a child when taken by his parents to Miami county, where he was reared on a farm and received his education in the rural district schools, and resided at home until his marriage to Nora, daughter of John Rawn. For many years Mr. Palsgrove applied himself to agricultural pursuits, cultivating farms in both Franklin and Miami counties, but in 1920 he retired from farming and came to Bloomer, where he became the proprietor, by purchase, of the former Finrock property, on which, in 1920, he built a garage. He has a prosperous business, and conducts a modern establishment, including a repair department, service station, etc., and handling tires and standard accessories. He has won public confidence and patronage by a straight-forward business policy and a courteous personality. Mr. Palsgrove, in the various communities in which he has resided, has displayed public spirit in his support of worthy civic enterprises, and was a liberal contributor to the various movements necessitated by the World war. He and his wife are the parents of six children: Russell, Ernest, Virgie, May, Floyd and Fay. Russell Palsgrove is an overseas veteran who saw much active service in France. He enlisted at Troy and after intensive training at Camp Chillicothe was assigned to Company F, Twenty-sixth division, subsequently being transferred to the Eighty-third division. He was gassed in the Argonne sector, and was in hand-to-hand encounters with the enemy in that region, taking part also in the engagements at Verdun and St. Mihiel. He married Fern Brandt, a daughter of Joseph Brandt, and they reside in Bradford, where he is engaged with the railroad company, and is one of his community's most popular young men.

Guy Parsons. The career of Guy Parsons, the progressive and energetic proprietor of a thriving grocery business at Tippecanoe City, is one in which he has been identified with several lines of endeavor, in each of which he has won success. Mr. Parsons was born at Fairfield, Greene county, Ohio, and belongs to a family well known in Miami county, a history of which will be found elsewhere in this work in the sketch of Ray Parsons. Guy Parsons was a small child when taken by his parents to Bethel township, Miami county, and there he grew to manhood on his father's farm, his education being acquired in the public schools, and he graduated

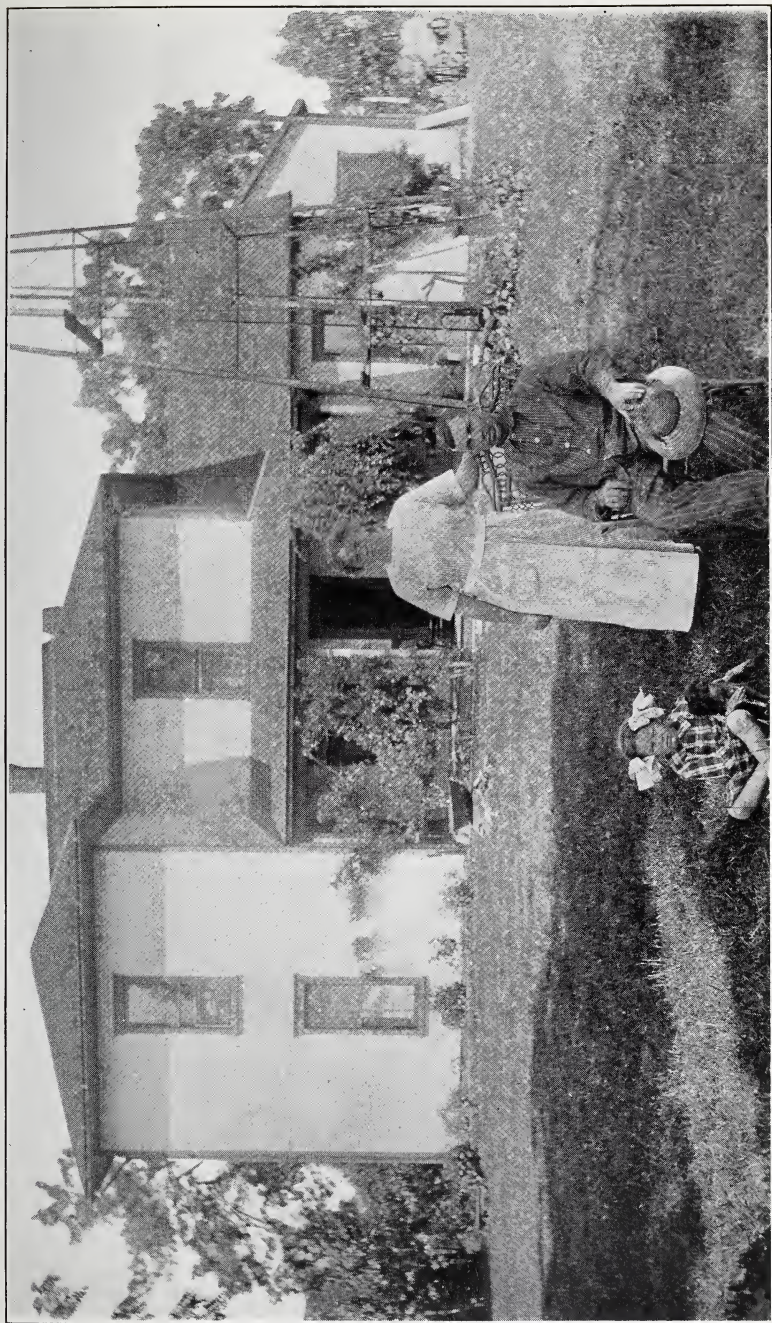
from the Bethel High School. When Mr. Parsons entered upon his career it was as an agriculturist near Phoneton, in the south-eastern part of Miami county, and while thus engaged became interested in the raising of fancy poultry. Eventually he made a specialty of this line of work and became noted as a poultry fancier, his birds being exhibited at Dayton, Eaton and Springfield, where they won several silver cups and also took the sweepstakes for the best displays. In 1919 Mr. Parsons came to Tippecanoe City and subsequently purchased the grocery business of N. Buckles. This he has since built up to important proportions, and at this time is accounted one of the prosperous merchants of the city. Mr. Parsons is primarily a business man and has found little time for public affairs, but is known as a public-spirited citizen and has given his support to all worthy measures, whether in peace or war times. He possesses the qualifications of courtesy and amiability so necessary to the success of a retail merchant, and since coming to Tippecanoe City has attracted to himself numerous friendships.

Louis Paul, ex-sheriff of Miami county, ex-chief of police of Troy, and one of the heroes of the flood of 1913, is now engaged in the tire and accessory business at Troy, at which place he was born January 10, 1870, a son of Louis and Anna (Scissler) Paul. Louis Paul, the elder, was a member of the Seventy-first regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, during the war between the North and the South, and sustained a wound at Pittsburgh Landing. For a number of years subsequently he was proprietor of the old Galt House, at Main and Cherry streets, Troy, and died January 8, 1876, being survived by his widow until December 8, 1888. Both were laid to rest in the cemetery at Troy. Their children were: Charles; Edward, of Chicago, whose son, Edward Paul, Jr., was a soldier with the American Expeditionary Forces, and saw service in France during the great World war; Anna, who is the wife of Frank Clements, and Louis. Louis Paul, the younger, graduated from the Troy High School and for some years was engaged in business as the proprietor of a popular and successful restaurant. In 1910 he was elected sheriff of Miami county, and his record during his first administration caused his re-election in 1912. In the following year during the great flood, he proved one of the outstanding heroes of the catastrophe, rendering valuable assistance and performing numerous deeds of bravery. He was appointed chief of police of Troy in 1916 and continued to act in that capacity until December 31, 1919, since which time he has been engaged in business at Troy as the proprietor of an automobile tire and accessory business. A man of broad and charitable views and tendencies, Mr. Paul is popular with all of his fellow-citizens and is loved by many for his human qualities and his unfailing good humor. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Martin Jenkins, of St. Paris, Ohio, and while they have had no children of their own, they have reared a nephew and niece of Mrs. Paul and have also assisted other children of worthy parents in gaining an education. Fra-

ternally, Mr. Paul is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. During the war period he was active in assisting the Government in promoting the various war movements, and in this was loyally and energetically seconded by his popular and estimable wife.

Harry Schmidlapp, who is conducting extensive and successful agricultural operations in Washington township, was born on the home farm in this township, June 3, 1881, a son of Caleb and Mary (Roberts) Schmidlapp. The Schmidlapp family is widely and favorably known in the Miami valley and has given to this locality a number of prominent citizens, including lawyers, physicians and philanthropists, as well as agriculturists, one of the name having donated the public library to the city of Piqua. One of the first of the name to settle in Miami county was the grandfather of Harry Schmidlapp, who passed his entire life as an agriculturist. Caleb Schmidlapp was a lifelong farmer in Washington township, where he had a useful and honorable career, and on his farm Harry Schmidlapp was reared. He secured a public school education and as a young man adopted farming as his life work, this having occupied his activities ever since. At the present time he is the owner of a 400-acre property, which he devotes to general farming, and is a progressive and enterprising agriculturist and a citizen who at all times has contributed to the community's welfare by supporting worthy movements both in times of peace and war. Mr. Schmidlapp married Miss Jennie Martin and had one child, Helen. After the death of his first wife he married Miss Bertha Addington.

Harold A. Pauly, one of the publishers and editor of the *Troy Daily News* and the *Miami Union* (weekly), at Troy, Ohio, has been identified with journalism in Ohio for a period of twenty years, during which time he has edited and published newspapers in various communities and has been connected with many of the incidents that have made newspaper history during the past two decades. Born at Mason, Warren county, Ohio, March 31, 1879, he is a son of George W. and Clara (Cox) Pauly, whose other two children were: Frederick, who died in childhood, and William C., a resident of Los Angeles, Calif. Harold A. Pauly graduated from the high school at Mason, following which he attended the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, being a member of the graduating class at that institution in 1899. Following this, he returned to Mason, where he became the publisher of the *Warren County Appeal*. When he disposed of his interests in that publication, Mr. Pauly went to Lebanon, Ohio, where he edited *The Republican*. Later for one year he was identified with the United States Civil Service Commission, at Washington, D. C. He resigned this position to become publisher of *The Western Star*, at Lebanon, Ohio, with which he was identified until August, 1908. At that time he came to Troy, where he purchased the *Troy Buckeye*, and one year later became the owner, through purchase, of the *Miami Union*, which he consolidated with the other publication. Several years ago he and A. C. McClung, who became associated with him as a



FAMILY AND HOME OF HARRY SCHMIDLAPP



partner, purchased the *Troy Daily News*, and they still publish both newspapers. Mr. Pauly is a newspaper man of experience and capability and presents his readers with a newsy, reliable and interesting paper. He wields a facile pen, which becomes trenchant in behalf of good measures or in opposition to bad ones, and his writings are always pithy and to the point, timely and free from sensationalism. Mr. Pauly is a thirty-second degree Mason and a member of the Mystic Shrine and at present is commander of Coleman Commandery, Knights Templar. He likewise is secretary of the Troy Rotary Club, and holds membership in the Phi Delta Theta and Phi Beta Kappa fraternities. When the United States entered the great World war, Mr. Pauly offered his services and was in the first officers' training camp at Fort Benjamin Harrison. Later, however, he was released from service because of physical disabilities. On his return to Troy, determined to be of service, he was appointed as chairman of the home service department of the Red Cross, Miami county chapter. Mr. Pauly takes only a good citizen's and newspaper man's interest in politics, but has served as clerk of the county election board.

Frank H. Phillippi. Among the business establishments of Piqua which have firmly established reputations for honorable dealing is that of Frank H. Phillippi & Son, dealers in harness and leather goods. The head of this concern, Frank H. Phillippi, was born at Piqua, Ohio, October 19, 1858, a son of Philip and Philomena Phillippi. Philip Phillippi was the father of eight children, as follows, the first-named being by his first wife: William, whose son, Leonard, served in France during the great war with the American Expeditionary Forces; Frank H.; Fred; John; Louise, the wife of Jacob Pfistner, of Troy, Ohio; Mary, the wife of R. C. Chapman; Emma, the widow of Charles Graham, who met his death in an automobile accident at Piqua, and Anna, the widow of George Mason, of this city. Frank H. Phillippi received a public school education and when still a youth became a tobacco stripper. This employment did not prove congenial, nor did it satisfy his ambitions, and he accordingly turned his attention to the trade of harness-making which he thoroughly mastered. In 1883 he established himself in business at the old Brown corner, where the Favorite Hotel is now located, under the name of Fisher & Phillippi, but in 1891 sought larger quarters and moved to the present location, at 323 North Main street. In 1908, Mr. Fisher died. Since then, Mr. Phillippi and son, Jerome, have conducted the business. They carry a large and up-to-date stock of leather goods, harness, travelers' supplies, trunks, etc., and carry on a flourishing trade, which has been built up through their capable direction and honorable dealing. Mr. Phillippi married Mary, daughter of Mathias and Margaret (Kohler) Schnell, and to this union there have been born five children: Ruth, who died at the age of five years; Jerome, who married Marjorie May; Marie, who married August Hefe, and Gertrude and George, who reside with their parents. Mr. Phillippi was prominent in various war activi-

ties, being a generous supporter of the Red Cross and other movements. His fraternal affiliation is with the local lodge of Elks, in which he has numerous friends. The family belongs to St. Boniface Catholic Church.

S. C. Philbrook. Like a number of other prominent business men of Piqua, S. C. Philbrook, head of the Philbrook Optical Company, traces his lineage back to the rugged colonists of Puritan faith who, settling first in New England, have made their mental and moral influence felt across the continent. In the New England states many of his ancestors on both the paternal sides were sea captains, as the Philbrooks and Ingrahams were seafaring people, and several of the name participated in the Revolutionary war. The family settled early in Ohio, where the father of S. C. Philbrook, E. Philbrook, was a prominent farmer and stockraiser of Licking county. He married Clara Ingraham, and they became the parents of six children: Seth C., of this notice; Edith, a teacher in the public schools; Gladys, the wife of O. D. Williams; Robert, Lurah and Charlotte. Seth C. Philbrook was born at Johnstown, Ohio, in July, 1885, and received his early education in the graded and high schools of his native community. Later he pursued a course at the Northern Illinois College of Optometry, and subsequently located at LaCrosse, Wis., later, in 1911, coming to Piqua. Having mastered every phase of the business, he founded the Philbrook Optical Company which, under his direction, has achieved great success and prosperity. Mr. Philbrook is an expert lens grinder and does all the lens grinding for his firm. He married Martha, daughter of Charles Simon, of Piqua, and they are devout members of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church. During the war period they were active in the work of the Red Cross and the various war measures, and as a citizen Mr. Philbrook has been helpful in his support of civic movements. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Cosmopolitan Club and has numerous warm friends in business and social circles of Piqua.

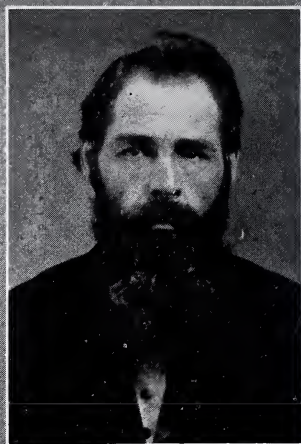
John Henry Pohlman. During a period covering a quarter of a century, John Henry Pohlman has been identified with business affairs at Tiptecanoe City, where he is now the proprietor of the leading dry goods establishment. Mr. Pohlman was born at New Bremen, Auglaize county, Ohio, May 15, 1857, a son of Henry Herman and Mary (Goke) Pohlman, farming people who passed long and honorable lives in Auglaize county, where they were known as honest, God-fearing residents and kind and faithful friends. They were the parents of nine children, of whom five survive: Josephine, the widow of Mr. Juneman, making her home with her brother, John H.; Fred Benjamin, a retired resident of Tiptecanoe City; Henry L., formerly a merchant, and now living retired here; Ferdinand, who is engaged in the confectionary business at Knoxville, Ohio; Levi, a resident of Xenia, Ohio, and John Henry. John Henry Pohlman attended the public school at New Bremen, following which he worked on the home farm with his father until he reached the age of twenty years, at that time going

to Kansas, where he remained about six months, working as a farm hand. His next location was in Nebraska, where he lived for seventeen years, during the greater part of his time being a general merchant, with stores in several different communities of that State. He returned to Ohio in 1895 and, locating at Tippecanoe City, embarked in the dry goods business, with which he has been connected ever since. He has developed this concern through constantly advancing stages into the largest and best enterprise of its kind at Tippecanoe City, and has a large, representative and constantly-increasing patronage. Mr. Pohlman has various other connections of a business nature, and is a director of the Citizens National Bank, of Tippecanoe City, and of the Monroe Building and Loan Association, of this place. As a citizen he has been a supporter of all worthy movements, particularly during the war period when he contributed liberally to the various movements promoted by the Government and local organizations, and the high esteem in which he is held by his fellow-citizens is shown in the fact that he held the office of town treasurer for eighteen years. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Tribe of Ben Hur, the Order of the Eastern Star and the Masons, in the latter of which he has attained to the Knights Templar degree, and in all of which orders he is very popular and has numerous friends. Mr. Pohlman's first wife was Alvina, daughter of C. H. Kuenning, of New Bremen, Ohio. She died March 20, 1900, leaving two children: Roy H., who is assistant cashier in the Citizens Bank of Tippecanoe City, and Ethel Louise, the wife of Prof. E. C. Rowe, a well-known educator of Elkhart, Ind. Following the death of his first wife, Mr. Pohlman was united in marriage with Anna, daughter of Thomas Grant, of Tippecanoe City. Mr. and Mrs. Pohlman have had no children of their own, but have reared Mrs. Pohlman's niece, Dorothy Beel Wagner, who entered their home at the age of three months and who is, at this time, seventeen years of age and completing her education. Five of Mr. Pohlman's nephews were in the United States forces during the World war.

Louis V. Priller, one of the progressive business citizens of Tippecanoe City, where he is engaged in the conduct of a flourishing meat market in association with his brother, Charles, is a native of Indianapolis and a son of George J. Priller. A history of the Priller family will be found in this work in the sketch of Albert Priller, of Piqua. George J. Priller was for some years engaged in the meat business at Indianapolis, whence he went to Dayton and founded a similar enterprise. Later, members of the family entered the same line in various communities, so that the family name is prominently identified with this line of business endeavor. Louis V. Priller secured his educational training in the public schools of Piqua, and practically grew up in the meat business, which he learned in all its details under the tutelage of his experienced father. Coming to Tippecanoe City with his brother Charles, he bought the meat business formerly conducted by Carl Frings, and this has since been built up to large proportions. Another brother conducts

an establishment at Troy, while still another is at the head of a similar business at Piqua, all of these being large and growing concerns. The Tippecanoe City establishment is one that caters to the best people of the city, carrying a full and complete line of choice meats and such other products usually found in modern, first-class meat markets. The brothers are courteous and obliging, thorough masters of their trade and possessed of excellent business qualities, and these things have combined to make their venture successful and popular with the public. During the period of the World war the brothers were generous contributors to all war measures and movements, while in civic affairs they have displayed their good citizenship by a public-spirited support of worthy civic enterprises. They have a number of business, social and fraternal connections, and are greatly esteemed by those with whom they have come into contact. Louis V. Priller married Miss Marlah Lawrence, of Tippecanoe City. Charles Priller is also married, and both brothers own pleasant homes at Tippecanoe City. The firm of Priller Brothers consists of Frank C., Louis V. and Charles.

Otis Grant Skillings. Since October, 1897, Otis G. Skillings has been numbered among the substantial agriculturists of Miami county and during this time has added to the reputation which he had established in his former home community of Clark county for capable agricultural work and worthy citizenship. Mr. Skillings, who is the owner of a well-cultivated farm of 120 acres in Bethel township, was born in Clark county, September 12, 1864, a son of Eben and Phoebe A. (Paullin) Skillings. His parents, farming people, now deceased, were well and favorably known in their locality, and were the parents of six children, of whom five are living. Otis G. Skillings was given the advantages of a public school education and attended Wittenberg College at Springfield, Ohio, and like other farmers' sons of his day and locality was brought up to appreciate the honesty of hard work and the value of money. A rigorous training brought him to manhood with principles of integrity and industry firmly imbued in him and in his early agricultural operations he evidenced a willingness for energetic labor and a desire to carry through all transactions honorably. He farmed in Clark county until October, 1897, at which time he came to Miami county and took up his residence in Bethel township, where he now has 120 acres of good land and a modern home on New Carlisle R. F. D. No. 5. The principles which Mr. Skillings adopted and espoused in his youth have been strictly adhered to and as a result he is accounted one of the reliable men of his locality in business as well as in citizenship. During the World war he rendered valuable service in soliciting for the various war chest drives. Mr. Skillings married, March 5, 1896, Bertha, daughter of Harrison and Henrietta M. (Skillings) Inlow, of Clark county, both deceased, and to this union there have been born five children: Ruth, the wife of Floy Artz, of Elizabeth township, Miami county, and they are the parents of three children, Irene, Wesley, and Grant; Glenn, a farmer of Bethel township, who married Vernona Studebaker, and Hazel,



MR. AND MRS. HARRISON INLOW
MR. AND MRS. EBEN SKILLINGS



O. G. SKILLINGS' FAMILY AND RELATIVES



Anson and Charles, who live with their parents on the home farm. Mr. Skillings is a Republican Prohibitionist, but independent in local politics. He is an elder in the Presbyterian church.

Charles C. Proctor. The manufacturing interests of Piqua are worthily and capably represented by Charles C. Proctor, secretary of the Wood Shovel and Tool Company, who was born on a farm in Shelby county, Ohio, February 17, 1879, a son of G. W. and Sarah (Hetzler) Proctor. G. W. Proctor, in addition to being a successful and industrious agriculturist, was active in the political life of Shelby county, where he was the incumbent of a number of minor public offices. He and his wife were the parents of seven children: William P., Elmer, Albert, Frank C., Charles C.; Mrs. Jennie Snodgrass, the wife of L. T. Snodgrass, and Eva May, wife of E. N. Middleton. Charles C. Proctor was educated in the country schools of Shelby county and at the Sidney High School, after leaving which he entered the employ of the Wood Shovel and Tool Company in a clerical capacity. Through successive promotion he worked his way upward to the post of secretary, an office which he has capably filled since 1912. His abilities have caused him to be placed high in the estimation of his associates and those with whom he has come into contact in a business way. Mr. Proctor married Grace Elma, daughter of J. E. and Irene Moore, of Shelby county, and to this union there were born two sons: Clifford C. and Paul E. Mr. Proctor rendered a great deal of personal service in the various war movements, loan drives, etc., and as an official of the Wood Shovel and Tool Company also did much in an industrial way, as this concern manufactured a preponderance of the intrenching shovels carried by the American doughboys into the trenches of France. He is fraternally affiliated with the Masons and the Knights of Pythias, and belongs to the United Commercial Travelers and the Piqua Club. His religious connection is with the Methodist church, to which also belongs Mrs. Proctor, who was active in all the women's movements attendant to the successful carrying on of the war.

O. O. Putterbaugh. The list of progressive and energetic agriculturists of Miami county includes the name of O. O. Putterbaugh, who has been connected long and prominently with the farming interests of Bethel township, where he at present is the owner of a substantial property. Mr. Putterbaugh is one of those who have passed their entire lives in this community, having been born on a Miami county farm in 1888, a son of William and Caroline (Swallow) Putterbaugh. His parents were agricultural people who were satisfied to round out their lives in the pursuits of the soil, honorably discharging their community responsibilities and rearing their children to lives of honesty and industry. O. O. Putterbaugh was given the advantages of a rural school education and was carefully trained in farming under the instruction of his father. After reaching his majority he began farming on his own account and has so continued to the present with constantly-growing success. He is

the owner of a well-improved and fertile property and is numbered among the substantial and reliable citizens of his community, having always contributed of his time, abilities and means in the furtherance of objects calculated to be of benefit to his community. Mr. Putterbaugh married Belle, daughter of John and Nettie (Reel) Shoup, of Miami county.

Tom B. Radabaugh. Prior to his election to his present office of auditor of Miami county, Tom B. Radabaugh, of Troy, was prominently identified with newspaper work as publisher and editor, and is still widely known in this connection, although since assuming the duties of his office in 1918 he has devoted all of his time to official matters. He was born January 21, 1875, in Darke county, Ohio, a son of Joseph and Rebecca (Ward) Radabaugh, and received his early education at Versailles High School. After learning the printer's trade, he owned and edited the Versailles Banner, published by Radabaugh & Fahnestock, and on April 1, 1902, came to Miami county and, with his brother Charles, purchased the West Milton Record. During the time that he was engaged in publishing this newspaper, Mr. Radabaugh became actively and prominently connected with public affairs, and in 1918 was elected auditor of Miami county. He has made an excellent record in this office and is numbered among the constructive workers in county affairs. Mr. Radabaugh has a number of business interests and is president of the West Milton Savings and Loan Association of West Milton, Ohio. During the war period he was captain of the "four-minute" speakers and served capably on various committees. He is a member of Milton lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, No. 577, of West Milton, Ohio, and the Knights of Pythias. Mr. Radabaugh married Miss Edith I. Stevenson, of Versailles, and to this union there were born two children: Miss Truell, who acts as deputy to her father, and LeRoy. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Radabaugh married Miss Anna Fouts (deceased), and to them was born one child, Robert E.

Lee Ralston, one of the highly esteemed retired farmers of Brown township, was born in this township and belongs to one of its most highly honored families. His paternal grandfather, Allen Ralston, was a native of Scotland, of Scotch-Irish blood, and immigrated to the United States in young manhood, settling in Lost Creek township, Miami county, Ohio, where he passed the remainder of his life. Andrew Ralston, father of Lee Ralston, was born in Ohio, January 26, 1839, and was there married in October, 1889, to Elizabeth Ralston, also a native of that state. Shortly after their union they came to Lost Creek township, Miami county, where, under a buckskin land grant issued over the signature of Andrew Jackson, Mr. Ralston secured eighty acres of land in Lost Creek township. He continued to be engaged in agricultural operations until the outbreak of the Civil war, when he enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Tenth regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, an organization with which he saw service in twenty-three engagements. At the close of the war he returned safely to

his home and there continued to be engaged in farming until February 26, 1900, when he retired to Fletcher and here his death occurred March 16, 1909, when he was seventy years of age. He was a man of prominence in his community, accumulated a large property through industry and good management, and served as county appraiser and in other capacities. Mrs. Ralston, who survives him, lives at Fletcher with her unmarried children, Miss Vesta and Lee. Minnie, the eldest child, died when young, and Mary, the second in order of birth, is the wife of Justus Burnside, an agriculturist of Staunton township. Lee Ralston was educated in the public schools and engaged actively in farming until 1900, since when he has supervised the operation of his farms. He is the owner of about 134 acres of well-cultivated, highly-improved and productive land, which is devoted to general farming, and his sister, Vesta, owns 100 acres. He has a number of social, fraternal, including the Knights of Pythias, of which he is chancellor, commander, business and civic connections, and has always discharged his responsibilities in a highly commendable manner. He is a Democrat.

William A. Reed. Two generations of the Reed family have been engaged in the time-honored business of carriage painting at Covington, the present representative here being William A. Reed, a citizen of substantial worth and standing. Mr. Reed was born at Piqua, Ohio, January 26, 1873, a son of Elijah C. and Agnes B. (Croger) Reed. His father, a native of Cuyahoga county, Ohio, early adopted the vocation mentioned, which he followed from 1878 forward until the close of his active and honorable career, and was widely known in the vicinity of Piqua and Covington. He was a business man whose straightforward dealing won him confidence and esteem and a citizen who contributed in various ways to the development of the communities in which he resided. There were seven children in the family: William A.; H. C., who is deceased; Walter C., the proprietor of a carriage painting business at Piqua; Hon. Bert A., a member of the probate bench in Idaho; Clifford, who is identified with a ranching enterprise in Montana; Lewis, who is deceased, and Florence, a resident of Columbus, Ohio. William A. Reed obtained his education in the public schools of Piqua, after leaving which he entered the establishment of his father, under whose teaching he learned the carriage business, later turning to automobile trimming and painting. He remained with the elder man as the latter's associate until 1905, at which time he entered upon an independent career, opening an establishment at Covington, which he has since enlarged and developed. He now controls an extensive trade and is accounted one of the substantial and reliable business men of his community, with a well-deserved reputation for veracity and integrity. Mr. Reed married Musetta, daughter of E. W. Hill, of Covington, and to this union there have been born four children: Josephine, born in 1898, who is single and resides with her parents; Herbert, who is employed in the establishment of his father at Covington, and Elizabeth and Ernest, who

are still attending school. Mr. Reed has been a constructive citizen, interestingly active in all that pertains to the welfare of Covington, where he served for some years as a member of the city council. His patriotism was demonstrated during the World war period, when he was a liberal contributor to the various movements promoted to assure the success of American arms.

Warren F. Rhoades. Starting upon his independent career at the time he gained his majority, with few advantages save an ordinary district school education, Warren F. Rhoades has worked his way to the ownership of a farm of 170 acres and a place in the esteem of his fellow-citizens in Newberry township. Mr. Rhoades was born in this township, June 4, 1875, a son of Uriah and Dorothy (Routson) Rhoades, and a member of an old and honored family of Miami county, which was founded in Newberry township by his grandfather. Uriah Rhoades was also born in Newberry township, where he passed his life as an agriculturist and was held in high esteem by his fellow-citizens. He and his wife were the parents of six children: John Wesley, who is engaged in farming in Shelby county; Ira, who is an agriculturist of Newberry township; Jennie, the wife of Charles Fessler, of this township; Fannie, the wife of George Finrock, of Newberry township; Mina, the wife of David Boserman, of Darke county, and Warren F. Warren F. Rhoades attended the school in the neighborhood of his father's farm in Newberry township, and as a young man engaged in agricultural pursuits on his own account. Industry, close application and good management have combined to bring him into possession of 170 acres of valuable land, which he has put under an excellent state of cultivation, and upon which he has made numerous improvements of a modern character. Mr. Rhoades married, February 22, 1899, Jemima, daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Apple) Routson, of Newberry township, and to this union there have been born six children: Lowell, who married Pearl Fietance, and they have one child, Dorotha, and who is engaged in farming on his own account in Shelby county; Ray, Sylvia, Selda and Florence, who live on the home farm with their parents, and Dorothy, who died in infancy. Mr. Rhoades is not an office-seeker, but as a man of intelligence and forethought he commands the esteem and good will of all who know him, and is recognized as one of his township's potent and upbuilding influences, and as a generous contributor to all worthy civic causes. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church.

Augustus Lawton Richey, a prominent and capable business man of Piqua, where he is proprietor of a leading jewelry establishment, was born at Shelbyville, Ind., April 25, 1866, a son of M. F. and Julia Elizabeth (Benton) Richey. His father, a native of New Paris, Ohio, fought as a soldier during the Civil war, having been a member of the One Hundred and Sixty-seventh regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He had come to Piqua in 1860, and after receiving his honorable discharge from the army re-engaged in the jewelry business at Piqua, continuing to be connected with this



HARRY G. RINEHART



EUGENE F. RINEHART



MRS. MARTHA RINEHART

enterprise until his death in 1901. He and his wife were the parents of four children: Charles B., Augustus Lawton, Robert and Walter W. After attending the public schools of Piqua, Augustus L. Richey studied photography for a time, but finally turned his attention to the jeweler's trade, which he mastered under the preceptorship of his father. Becoming his father's associate and partner, he continued with him until the elder man's death, when he succeeded to the ownership of the business. He has a modern establishment at No. 207 North Main street, where he carries an up-to-date line of jewelry, watches, etc., and controls a large and representative trade as a master of his vocation and a business man of the highest integrity. Mr. Richey is widely and favorably known not only in business but in social circles, and is treasurer of the Miami County Automobile Club. He is a Mason and belongs to the Knights of Pythias, and he and Mrs. Richey are consistent members of the Presbyterian church. Both were active in all war activities during the period of the great struggle and were particularly generous in their support of the Red Cross Society. Mr. Richey married Blanche, daughter of the late Joseph Patterson, who was one of the prominent citizens of Piqua and at one time served as postmaster of the city.

E. P. Riesenbeck. One of the energetic members of the younger business element at Piqua is E. P. Riesenbeck, proprietor of an electrical store at 121 West Ash street. He is a native son of Piqua and was born September 8, 1892, his parents being Alphonse and Margaret (Lechner) Riesenbeck. Mr. Riesenbeck was educated at St. Boniface school and as a youth applied himself to the electrical business as a student, subsequently being employed by several Piqua establishments. Desiring to be independent of others, in 1915 he established himself in business on Ash street, west of his present location, and at first conducted a plumbing department in connection with his electrical store. The plumbing feature was later dispensed with and his activities are now confined to electrical contracting and wiring, with the sale of appliances, fixtures, etc. Mr. Riesenbeck is a capable business man of the highest integrity, whose training and equipment enable him to fulfill his contracts with the highest degree of efficiency and expedition, and whose workmanship testifies to his mastery of his vocation. He is a valued and popular member of the local lodges of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and he and Mrs. Riesenbeck belong to St. Boniface Catholic Church. During the war period he was actively engaged in supporting the different war measures and in assisting in various ways to aid in the country's success. Mrs. Riesenbeck was formerly Miss Marie Ashburn, and is a daughter of Clifford and Catherine Ashburn, of Lima, Ohio.

Harry G. Rinehart. Among those who, while maintaining their business interests elsewhere, have had family connections in Miami county was the late Harry G. Rinehart. Mr. Rinehart belonged to an old family of Maryland, in which State he was born, Septem-

ber 4, 1864, and from which his uncle, Daniel Rinehart, went forth to serve as a Union soldier during the war between the states and rose to the rank of a captain. Harry G. Rinehart's people were for the greater part agriculturists, but he decided upon a different vocation, and after a course in Valparaiso University became an expert stenographer. This vocation caused him to be called to Chicago, where he was engaged in secretarial work with large concerns and prominent individuals for a number of years. His death occurred January 8, 1918. Mr. Rinehart was a man of kindly impulses and splendid character, and although he never sought public office, his personal interests being of a nature to preclude the idea of his engaging actively in politics, he always observed the rules of good citizenship and supported such worthy movements as were brought to his notice. He married, November 6, 1890, Martha, daughter of Rev. Isaac and Anna (Warner) Studebaker, of Miami county, and they became the parents of four children: Horace, deceased; Frederick Grant, Eugene Frank and Grace Louise. Eugene F. Rinehart was a member of the United States Aviation corps during the World war, having trained at Waco, Tex., and later in England, and became inspector of aviation construction. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Rinehart has lived on the family farm in Elizabeth township, her pleasant home being situated on Casstown R. F. D. No. 1. Here she has a well-cultivated property, which is being operated by her sons under her supervision. Mrs. Rinehart is a woman of many accomplishments, and she and the members of her family are very highly esteemed in the community.

Edward O. Ritter. The entire absence of competition in his line cannot account in full for the success which has attended the activities of Edward O. Ritter, proprietor of the only livery barn remaining at Troy, for Mr. Ritter is a man of sound business principles who has conducted his affairs in an able and judicious manner. He is a native of the city of which he is now a resident, and was born in 1876, a son of Charles and Martha E. (Steinmetz) Ritter. There were six children in the family: W. H., Charles L., George S., Edward O., Mrs. Otto Smith and Mrs. John Heiser. Edward O. Ritter received a public school education and as a youth applied himself to learning the carriage trimming business with the Troy Carriage Company and the Troy Buggy Company. He also operated a bus for the transfer firm of Scobey & Vandiver and subsequently entered the livery business in partnership with F. E. Scobey, under the firm style of Scobey & Ritter, having an establishment on Cherry street, where the old creamery stood. This was quite a pretentious business, as the firm has sixty-five horses, but the business was sold to C. M. Smith. June 10, 1904, Mr. Ritter embarked in business on his own account, renting from the county a barn in the rear of the county jail, where he started with four horses. This venture proved profitable, and in 1917 he removed to his present location, on Jackson street, between Main and Water streets, a property which belonged to Joseph Barnett

and Harry Landis. This is now the only livery stable remaining in Troy and Mr. Ritter is doing a splendid business, having eleven livery horses and ten boarders. He is a man of sound integrity and very popular with his associates, while during the war period, as well as in normal times, he has always faithfully and fully discharged the full duties of citizenship. He is a member of the local lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, in which he has numerous friends. Mr. Ritter married Elizabeth, daughter of Frank and Emma McDonald. Mrs. Ritter is a member of the Methodist church.

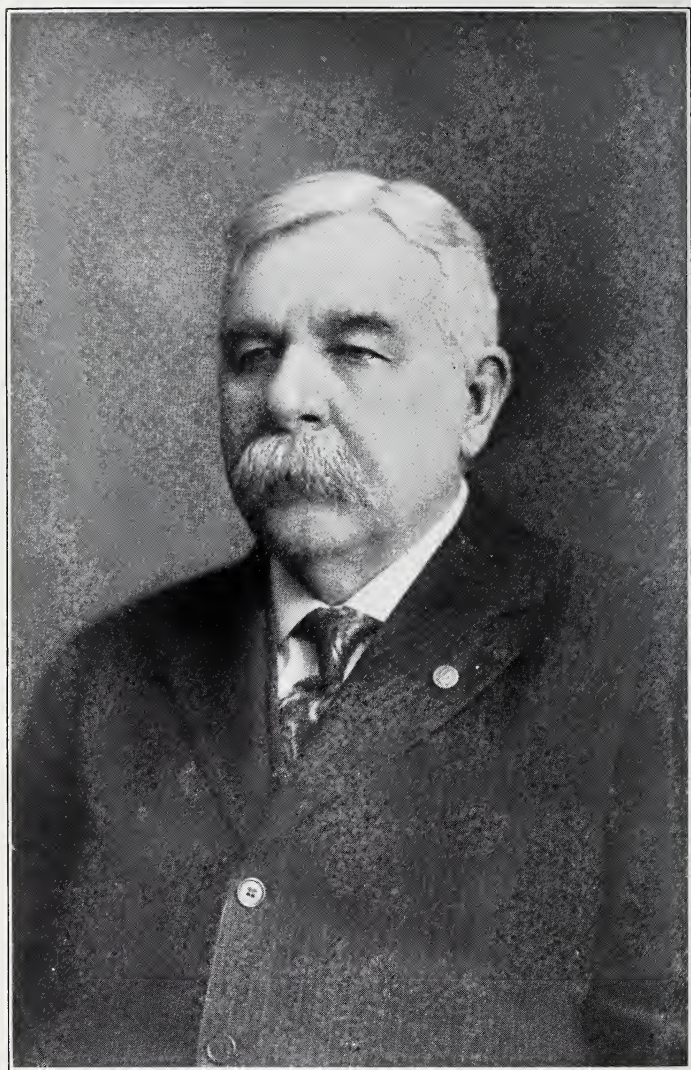
J. Warren Safford, manager of the Troy Telephone Company, is one of the best-informed men in this line of business in the State. His experience has been broad and practical and has included personal contact with every phase of the industry. Born at Somerset, Perry County, Ohio, June 23, 1883, Mr. Safford is a son of George H. and Mary J. (Chilcote) Safford, and belongs to an old and honored Bay state family, which had its origin in England. His father came from Worcester, Mass., as a lad and made his home with an aunt, Mrs. Mary Manners, at Coshocton. While living at that place he met and married Mary J. Chilcote, following which they moved to Somerset, Ohio, where Mr. Safford engaged in the mercantile business. He was a practical tinsmith and followed that vocation in connection with the sale of hardware, and was known as one of the substantial business men of his city. He and Mrs. Safford were the parents of five children: J. Warren; George, deceased, and Mrs. Otus Helser, of Somerset, who grew to maturity, and two children who died in childhood. J. Warren received his education in the public schools of Somerset, and as a youth obtained his introduction to business affairs as a clerk in a general store. An opening offering in the Somerset Telephone Company, he secured a position with that new concern, which he assisted in establishing and of which he was later manager. From that point he went to Columbus, Ohio, and then entered the office of the company, in the traveling foreman's estimate and payroll department, for the division line foreman. Transferred to Nelsonville for a time, he later had charge of the Buchtel, Ohio, office, and was then given supervision over the toll line including part of Perry, Hocking and Athens counties. In 1908, when he came to Troy as manager of the plant, there were 1,000 subscribers in the territory served by the Troy exchange. At the present time there are 2,300 telephones in use, which will give a fair estimate of how the business has grown here during the period of Mr. Safford's administration of affairs. He is likewise prominent in civic affairs and can be depended upon to enter heartily into any movement which promises civic growth or betterment. In addition to being secretary of the telephone company, he is president of the Troy Rotary Club, and past secretary of the Troy Chamber of Commerce. Few men were more active during the war period, when he was secretary of the Miami County Food Administration, local fuel administrator for the southern one-half of Perry county, chairman of the Red

Cross Society for Miami county and active in the work of accomplishing a full war chest. Mr. Safford married Bertha H., daughter of Charles Guerin, of New Lexington, Ohio, and to this union there has been born one daughter, Helen Marie.

William Cook Rogers, president of the Piqua Handle and Manufacturing Company and one of the city's influential business men, is a native of the Empire State, having been born at Williamson, Wayne county, a son of William Hayward and Mary Caroline (Cook) Rogers. The Rogers family has been a noted one from the earliest period of American history, and this branch of the family traces its ancestry directly back to the original progenitor, who came to this country with the other passengers on the Mayflower. William Cook Rogers graduated from high school at the age of seventeen years, following which he pursued a course in a business college at Philadelphia. Later, he became identified with the hardware business in the Quaker City, and on coming to Piqua established the W. C. Rogers Manufacturing Company. He later became associated with the Piqua Handle and Manufacturing Company, and the two concerns were subsequently merged, Mr. Rogers becoming vice-president. Later he succeeded to the presidency which he has since occupied, directing the affairs of this important enterprise in a manner that has greatly contributed to its success. Mr. Rogers has various other business connections and is president of the Munsing Woodenware Company, of Munsing, Mich., president of the United States Export Company, president of the Chapman-Sargent Company, secretary and treasurer of the French Oil Machine Company, a director of the Piqua National Bank, and vice-president of the National Association of Wood Turners. He is a vestryman of St. James Episcopal Church of Piqua and a member of the board of trustees of the local Young Men's Christian Association. During the war period he took a prominent part in the various war movements and has always been a generous contributor to all worthy civic causes. Mr. Rogers married Margaret, daughter of Robert Lansing and Margaret (Drake) Douglas, the father being the founder of the National Underwriters' Association. Mrs. Rogers is a woman of unusual literary gifts and is widely recognized in literary circles, being the author of several books which have met with exceptional favor at the hands of press and public. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Rogers: Eleanor Margaret, who is a graduate of Oakhurst College, Cincinnati, and Ruth, who is attending Wellesley College. A more detailed statement of the history of the Piqua Handle and Manufacturing Company will be found in the industrial section of this work. Following is one of the best known of Mrs. Rogers' poems:

RESURRECTION.

They said that Hope was dead, and very deep
They buried her, and made a heart her tomb,
And Sorrow sealed it—set a watch to keep,
So none might enter in that sacred room.



HON. H. J. RITTER

Then Sorrow turned, but closely at her side
 One, step for step, kept ever even pace;
 Till lifting tearful eyes, all deified,
 The risen Hope stood smiling in her face!

Aye, when the Master conquered mortal clay
 Into a new, glad world Hope was re-born;
 Though buried oft, she smiles on each new day,—
 Each sunrise brings a Resurrection Morn.

—Margaret Douglas Rogers.

Hon. H. J. Ritter, a veteran of the Civil war, ex-State representative and ex-State senator, and a leading manufacturer of Tippecanoe City, was born at Reading, Pa., in 1848, a son of Israel and Amelia (Glase) Ritter. Mr. Ritter received his early education in the public schools of his native city, and was but little more than a lad when he entered the United States Signal corps, with which he saw service during the Civil war in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. When he had completed his service he returned to Reading and pursued a course in a business college, after which he engaged in the horse business, from which he transferred his activities to the oil business. Mr. Ritter continued in the latter line around Oil City and Titusville, Pa., for several years, then coming to Ohio, where he took charge of a large stock farm for Col. J. R. Woodward. This position indirectly led to his becoming a buyer for an important horse buying concern, which imported and bred horses, and for which he traveled in Great Britain, Germany, France and Belgium, in securing animals for his firm. He was the first purchaser from this country to buy Shetland ponies from the Shetland Islands, which he visited on his buying tour. When he returned to the United States, Mr. Ritter severed his connection with the horse business and entered manufacturing lines, in which he has been engaged with constantly growing success to the present time at Tippecanoe City. Mr. Ritter was elected to the Ohio legislature in 1905 and served two terms in that body, during one session being chairman of the house finance committee. In 1918 he was elected State senator, as the only Civil war veteran serving in that body, and served as chairman of the senate finance committee. His work in both bodies was of a highly constructive order and he conscientiously and ably conserved the interests of his state, county, community and constituency. Mr. Ritter married Ada L., daughter of Col. J. R. Woodward, his former employer. To this union there has been born one son, H. W., associated in business with his father, who married Miss Ruth Hayes, and has two children: Woodward and Bettie. During the period of the World war, Mr. Ritter was a member of all the local committees engaged in war work, and was chairman of the Red Cross and Young Men's Christian Association, for the latter of which he raised the sum of \$3,000 from Tippecanoe City. His religious faith is that of the Lutheran church, and fraternally he is a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason and a Noble of the Mystic Shrine.

Frank C. Roberts, a highly esteemed resident of Troy, where he is engaged in business as an undertaker and funeral director, was born on a farm in Champaign county, Ohio, in 1861, a son of George W. and Diantha (Corbley) Roberts. George W. Roberts passed his life in agricultural pursuits in Champaign county, and he and his wife were the parents of nine children, all of whom are living: Frank C.; Wilbur; Mrs. J. W. Means, the wife of a practicing physician of Troy; Mrs. Ida Guthrie, Mrs. W. L. Deaton, Mrs. Carrie Guthrie, Mrs. Elmer Suttzbaugh, Mrs. M. Bausman and Mrs. J. W. Heffner. Frank C. Roberts received his education in the public schools of Champaign county and was reared in a farming community, but did not find agricultural work congenial and accordingly decided to devote his energies to business life. To prepare himself he pursued a course at the Columbus Commercial College and then became a dry goods clerk. After several years he embarked in business on his own account as the proprietor of a furniture store and undertaking establishment, opening a place of business in 1893, in the public square, Troy, under the firm name of Shilling & Roberts. This association continued until 1912, at which time Mr. Roberts engaged in the same line of business on his own account. In 1918 he disposed of his holdings in the furniture end of the business to Cappel & Wayne Company, retaining the undertaking business, which is one of the leaders in its line of Troy. He has a thoroughly modern establishment, with every facility for the careful and reverent handling of the dead, and his equipment includes an automobile hearse. During the many years that he has been engaged in business he has formed friendly connections with many of the leading families of Troy, in whose homes his tact and sympathetic perception have made him gratefully received during times of bereavement. During the war period he was an active worker in various activities, local and national, and served helpfully on a number of committees. He is prominent in Masonry, having attained to the thirty-second degree, and is a member of the Mystic Shrine of Dayton, and belongs to the Rotary Club and the Troy Club, in which he has numerous friends. His religious connection is with the Methodist Episcopal church, where he is serving as a member of the board of trustees. Mr. Roberts married Mary E., daughter of Jesse Shilling, Sr., of Troy.

Frank G. Rummell, D. D. S. Prominent among the professional men of Piqua who have contributed to the city's prestige as the home of men of learning and ability, is Frank G. Rummell, D. D. S. Doctor Rummell was born at Mansfield, Ohio, October 30, 1880, a son of Capt. J. P. and Eva R. (Redrup) Rummell. His father served in Company B, One Hundred and Twentieth regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war, and advanced to the rank of captain, although enlisting as a private. Later he was transferred to Company D, One Hundred and Sixteenth regiment, and while serving therewith was captured by the enemy. He spent fourteen months in a prison at Tyler, Tex., (from which he escaped and was recaptured) and was then

exchanged and rejoined his regiment. With a splendid war record, he was given his honorable discharge and located at Mansfield, where he founded the first suspender manufacturing company west of the Alleghenies, the Western Suspender Company, with which he continued to be identified until the time of his retirement. He and his wife then went to California, where his death occurred in 1920, Mrs. Rummell having passed away in the previous year. They were the parents of five sons and one daughter, of whom those living are: Dr. Frank G., of Piqua, and Fred R., of Ontario, Calif. Frank G. Rummell received his early education in the public schools of Mansfield, Ohio, and after his graduation from high school entered the Western Reserve University, Cleveland, where he applied himself to the study of dentistry. After receiving his degree he started practice at Piqua, in 1903, and here has built up a splendid practice, at present occupying well-appointed offices in the Ashton Building, 121½ West Ash street. He is a close student of his calling, in which he enjoys a splendid reputation, and is a member of the Psi Omega Dental fraternity, National Dental Association, Northern Ohio Dental Association, Ohio State Dental Association, and the Dental Preparedness League. Doctor Rummell took an active part in the movements which assisted in carrying on the great war, having been a liberal contributor to the Red Cross and other enterprises. He holds membership in the Piqua Club and the Golf Club and is a Mason, and belongs to the Presbyterian church. Mrs. Rummell, who was formerly Miss Carolyn Houser, is a sister of Bond Houser, a resident of this county.

William W. Sando, whose standing as a citizen of Miami county is very high and who has been intimately connected with the commercial growth and development of this locality for a number of years, is the proprietor of a flourishing tile mill at Bloomer. Mr. Sando was born on a farm in Monroe township, Darke county, Ohio, April 6, 1857, a son of Samuel and Celia (Hill) Sando. His father, who engaged in the timber industry and owned a sawmill, was held in high esteem in his community. He and his wife had ten children: William W., Sylvanus, Eulyases, who died when two years of age; John, Mary, wife of W. W. Woods; Judson, Warren, Rosella, and Russell, and a baby who died in infancy. John Sando had one son, Roy, who served in the United States Army Signal corps during the World war. William W. Sando was reared on the home farm in Darke county, where he acquired a public school education. As a youth he adopted the profession of school-teaching, which he followed for some five years in the rural districts, and then came to Bloomer, in 1880, and embarked in the sawmill business. Three years later he started his present tile mill, which he has since conducted with much success, although he continued the sawmill business until 1906, when he sold out. For two years he was also the proprietor of a general store at Bloomer, and made a success of all of his enterprises. In business circles Mr. Sando is well known as a man of sound integrity and straightforward deal-

ing, one who possesses the confidence of his associates and the general public. He has been industrious in his undertakings, making the most of his opportunities, but while his personal interests have been engrossing and important, he has found time also for community affairs, and has always discharged the duties of good citizenship in the fullest degree. He has not been a seeker for public office. Mr. Sando was united in marriage with Lucinda, daughter of Jacob and Rebecca (Hollinger) Hebb, and to this union there have been born three children: Iva, who is the wife of Hubert Smith, and Maude, the wife of Sherman Brubaker, both of Miami county, and a child who died at the age of sixteen months.

Bernard B. Scarff, who is numbered among the progressive business citizens of Tiptecanoe City, has been identified with several lines of commercial endeavor in this city, but since 1907 has devoted his attention to the hardware business conducted under the firm style of Scarff & Baldwin. Mr. Scarff was born on a farm in Clark county, Ohio, June 23, 1869, a son of William H. and Margaret (McKinley) Scarff. William H. Scarff was an Ohioan by birth and throughout his career followed the pursuits of farming with the exception of the period that he spent as a soldier of the Union during the Civil war. At the outbreak of the struggle between the North and the South, he enlisted in an Ohio contingent, as a 100-day man, and at the close of his term of enlistment re-enlisted in an Ohio volunteer infantry regiment, with which he fought faithfully and gallantly until the close of the war, four years later. He then returned to the peaceful pursuits of farming and rounded out his honorable career in Clark county, where his death was greatly mourned. There were four sons and two daughters in the family, those still surviving being: Nellie G., who is the wife of S. W. Baldwin, member of the firm of Scarff & Baldwin; Clifford A., who is identified with the Troy Lumber Company, of Troy, Ohio, and Bernard B. Bernard B. Scarff acquired his educational training in the public schools of Clark county and grew up as a farmer's son. For a time he assisted his father in the work of the home property, then going to Missouri, where he was made manager of a large ranch and occupied that post for six years. Returning to Ohio, he spent the next four years in farming on his own account, after which he was foreman in the yards in the lumber business at Tiptecanoe City. His experience therein was followed by his entrance into the Tiptecanoe Building and Manufacturing Company, of which concern he was foreman of the lumber department for two and one-half years, and in 1907 he entered the hardware business when he bought his present place of business, which is conducted as Scarff & Baldwin, his partner being his brother-in-law, S. W. Baldwin. Under capable management this venture has been built up to important proportions and through his connection therewith Mr. Scarff has established the fact of his ability firmly in the minds of his associates, while at the same time impressing the buying public with his integrity. Mr. Scarff married Marion Augusta, daughter of P. W. Baldwin, of New Carlisle, Ohio. Mr.

Scarff is a Scottish Rite Mason and has numerous friends in that order and he is also a Shriner. As a citizen, he has supported worthy movements making for the betterment of his community and during the war period was a member of all the local committees in the various drives for war funds. During the six years that he served as treasurer of Tippecanoe City, he established an excellent record.

Hon. James A. Scheip, mayor of Tippecanoe City for the third time, and the head of a thriving manufacturing business, was born in London, England, December 25, 1869, a son of John and Elizabeth (Ricketts) Scheip. When he was but a lad the family came to America, and after a short stay at Montreal located at Westfield, Mass., where the father died. There were six children in the family: John, Charles, Alfred, James A., Martha and Robert. Robert became a whip manufacturer and founder of the firm of Robert Scheip & Company, of Westfield, Mass., and has one son, Robert, Jr., who fought in the World war with the American Expeditionary Forces. James A. Scheip was educated in the public schools of Westfield, Mass., and after attaining manhood came to Springfield, where he helped to establish a company for the manufacture of a patent steel-center whip. In 1896 he moved to Tippecanoe City. Subsequently Mr. Scheip became the founder of the Tippecanoe Novelty Company, manufacturing whips, canes and various devices used at fairs, carnivals, shows, circuses, etc. He does a splendid business, his patronage extending into nearly every state in the Union. This business has been developed under the management of Mr. Scheip, who is possessed of excellent executive ability, a trained and practical knowledge of trade conditions and keen, far-sighted judgment in business affairs. When the citizens of Tippecanoe City began casting about for a man to fill the mayoralty chair and to place the little city on a sound financial basis, Mr. Scheip was found to possess the necessary qualifications and was duly elected to the office. So capable was his handling of the city's affairs that he was retained in office and is now serving his third term. During his administrations, a number of beneficial movements have been carried through to a successful conclusion, making for better government and better civic conditions. He was a four-minute speaker during the war period, local chairman of the Red Cross, a member of all the local committees and local chairman of the Victory Loan drive. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masons, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Knights of the Maccabees and Tribe of Ben Hur, in all of which he has numerous friends. Mr. Scheip married Dora M., daughter of Nicholas Frantz, of New Carlisle, Ohio, and three children have been born to this union: one who is deceased; James R., educated at the University of Pennsylvania, who married Emma Ketlinger, of Pittsburgh and has one son, James R., Jr., and Naomi, who resides with her parents. James R. Scheip joined the national guards prior to the World war, and was with Company G, of Dayton, during the Mexican border troubles. He trained at Leon Springs.

Tex., where he received a second lieutenant's commission in the tank corps, and was assigned to the Three Hundred and Third battalion. Sent overseas, he arrived at Warham, England, August 29, 1918, and received intensive training, following which he was sent to LeHavre, France, and then to Neuro-Parlloix, in the center of the Anglo-American tank corps, where he was placed in charge of reconnaissance of the heavy tank division. He was honorably discharged and mustered out of the service August 12, 1919.

Joseph H. Torbeck, one of the substantial retail cigar merchants of Troy, was born at Richmond, Ind., September 26, 1869, a son of William and Mary Torbeck. Mr. Torbeck was educated in the public schools of his native place, and as a young man became interested in the cigar business. Eventually coming to Troy, he opened a modest establishment which has since grown and developed under his capable management into one of the successful stores of its kind in the city. In connection with his cigar business, Mr. Torbeck conducts a well-equipped and modernly-kept carom and pocket billiard parlor, which has an excellent patronage of the better kind, and the entire establishment has proven a financial success. Mr. Torbeck is very popular with his patrons and business associates, as he is also with his fellow-members in the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Knights of the Golden Eagle, the Improved Order of Red Men and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He first married Miss Susan Funk, and after her death was united in marriage with Miss Carrie Ditmer. They have one child, Catherine Elizabeth. Mr. Ditmer, father of Mrs. Torbeck, was a farmer of Miami county. He married Elizabeth Welbaum, and had six children: Charles, Alfie, Carrie (Mrs. Torbeck), Emma, Jesse and Glen. The father is deceased, and the mother makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Torbeck, at Troy.

George V. Schnell, plumber of Troy, Ohio, was born in Tippicanoe City, this State, May 31, 1868, a son of Charles A. and Barbara (Eitel) Schnell, to whom were born the following children: Charles F., deceased; Mary, now the wife of Dave Metz, of Norwalk, Ohio, and George V., of this review. George V. Schnell received his education in the public schools at Troy, and realizing the benefits to be derived from an education, took advantage of his opportunity and pursued his studies diligently. Upon leaving the school room, he served an apprenticeship to the plumbing trade with T. E. Coles Co., of Troy, having decided upon that business as his life work. In 1904, having saved a sufficient amount of capital to start in business for himself, he established his present concern, which for quality of goods handled and service, cannot be excelled by a similar enterprise in the county. Mr. Schnell married Anna, a daughter of Jacob Botzenhart, of Monroe, Ohio, and to this union have been born these children: Charles J., Magdalene, and Robert, of whom the first two are assisting their father in his business, and the last named is attending school. Charles J. served with distinction during the recent war, having been twenty-one months overseas in the air service. Mr. Schnell did a good citizen's part in the



JOSEPH H. TORBECK AND FAMILY

civilian war work, giving his support whole-heartedly to all Government drives, such as the Red Cross, war loans, war savings stamps, and similar movements.

Everett J. Schultz. The connection of Everett J. Schultz with the agricultural interests of Miami county is that of a substantial and well-to-do farmer and stock raiser, with a well-cultivated property lying in the fertile community of Spring Creek township. Mr. Schultz was born at Piqua, Ohio, a son of Christian and Catherine (Stein) Schultz. His parents were well and favorably known in the Piqua community and it was there that he was reared and secured his education in the public schools. His home was made with his parents until the time of his marriage, when he settled on his present farm, the birthplace of his wife, and here has carried on farming with much success. A decidedly progressive and enterprising man, Mr. Schultz has made intelligent use of the various inventions connected with farming, and during his long residence here has made numerous improvements on his property, thus contributing materially to the general development of the section. He has several civic and social connections and has attained friendships and substantially placed himself high in the confidence of his associates. Mr. Schultz married Emma, daughter of Jacob and Magdalena Zimmerlin, long residents of the property now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Schultz. To this union there have been born two children: Fred A., and Marie, who married Roy Lennox, and they are the parents of three children, Norma, Edward, and Wilbur. Fred A. Schultz was reared on the home farm, and attended the district schools, the high school at Piqua and the Ohio State University. During the World war he went into training at Camp Sherman and was commissioned a second lieutenant of heavy artillery. After his arrival in France he was detailed to a French artillery school, and was ready for the front when the Armistice was signed. Since his honorable discharge he has been manager of a Piggly Wiggly store at Sidney, Ohio. He married Lillian Taylor, a daughter of James and Callie Taylor, of Piqua.

John G. Scott, who has passed his entire career in Miami county, has been, since February, 1903, a member of the plumbing and sheet metal firm of Hatfield & Scott, at Troy, and is accounted one of the thoroughly informed men of his calling. He is a product of the agricultural districts, having been born on a farm in Miami county, April 29, 1878, a son of Samuel S. and Mary E. (Farver) Scott. The only boy in a family of seven children, he was reared on the home place in the country, where he attended the district schools and assisted his father in the work of the home place. Later he secured added educational advantages in the town schools and began his connection with business affairs as shipping clerk for the Pioneer Pole & Shaft Company, with which he was identified for two years. Next he entered the hardware line, with the firm of Harter & Casley, at Troy, and in February, 1903, severed his connection with that concern to form a partnership with G. B. Hatfield, under the style of Hatfield & Scott. This business has

become the leader in its line at Troy, where the firm owns a modern establishment, at this time being greatly enlarged to accommodate its fast-growing business. For a time a hardware department was maintained, but this was disposed of in 1913, since which time the business has been confined to sheet metal work and plumbing, and the concern has handled numerous large contracts. Mr. Scott is a public-spirited citizen, always ready to support worthy movements which promise to contribute to the welfare of his community, and during the war period generously gave his aid to the Government's enterprises. He married Mrs. Zella Robinson Conover, daughter of Charles A. Robinson, of Troy, and to this union there have been born two children: Tom and Bob.

E. C. Scott. During the period of his connection with the business interests of Piqua, E. C. Scott has not only built up a splendid patronage in the jewelry line, but has also made his name one synonymous with integrity in business affairs. He is a native of Loudenville, Ohio, where he received a public school education and learned the trade of jeweler, and prior to coming to Piqua was employed as an expert watchmaker by the Ball Watch Company of Cleveland. Coming to Piqua in 1907, he founded his present business on Wayne street, and when he outgrew his original establishment came to his present location at Wayne and Ash streets. Mr. Scott carries a complete line of watches and jewelry and has built up a large and representative trade, a special feature of his business being his watch repairing department. He is a member of the Piqua Club, Cosmopolitan Club, the Rotary Club of Piqua, the Piqua Golf Club and the Piqua Chamber of Commerce. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masons and Elks. He has always shown himself a public-spirited citizen, and during the war period was a generous supporter of all war activities.

Lauren W. See. Among the younger members of the business fraternity of Tippecanoe City, one who is making rapid progress in forging to the front is Lauren W. See, proprietor of a flourishing garage business. Mr. See is a product of the agricultural districts, having been born in Elizabeth township, Miami county, in 1896, a son of William and Clara (Hoover) See, and a brother of Miss Verna See. After attending the country schools and those of Troy, Lauren W. See engaged in agricultural pursuits at home, and was thus employed until he was twenty years of age when he came to Tippecanoe City and purchased the automobile garage business formerly conducted by Harry Peters. Mr. See had established a good business and was progressing rapidly, when his establishment was destroyed by fire, in 1919. He lost no time in replacing this with a handsome and substantial brick garage of imposing appearance, 75x80 feet, which offers splendid garage facilities, and in connection with which he conducts a fully-equipped repair department, where competent mechanics are always in attendance. Mr. See is also local agent for the Studebaker and Overland automobiles, and carries a full line of all standard accessories, tires, etc. He has built up a splendid business, which is growing rapidly, and which

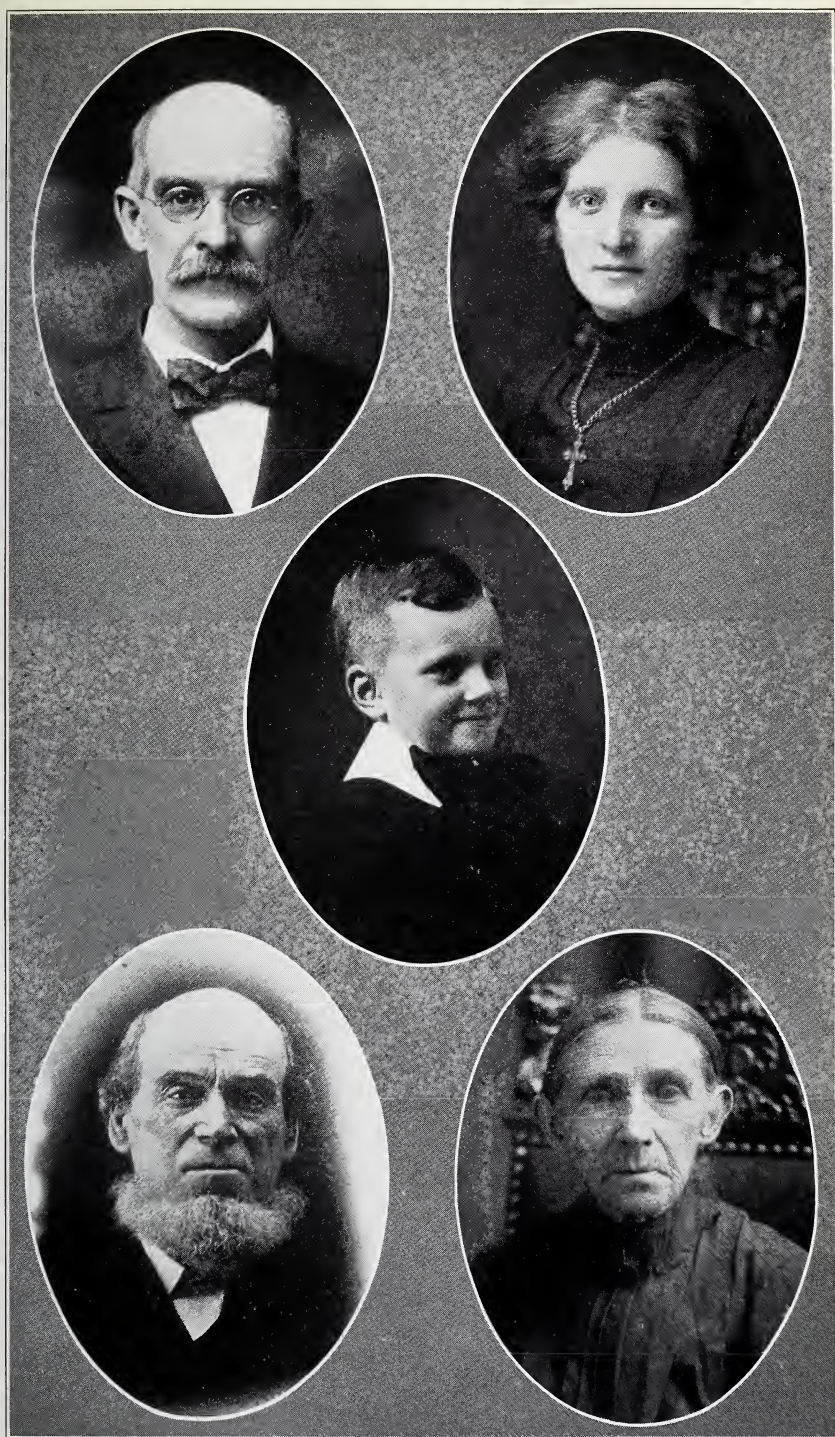
has been the result of his own enterprise and industrious labor. Mr. See married Helen, daughter of Charles McCooles, a well-known agriculturist of Elizabeth township, and to this union there has been born one child, Lauren McCooles. Mr. See and his wife were active in all local war activities, and he has also discharged a good citizen's responsibilities in civic affairs. He has several social connections, and is the center of a wide circle of friends at Tippecanoe City.

William E. See. Among the honored and substantial families of Miami county, none are held in higher esteem than that bearing the name of See. A worthy representative of this name is found in William E. See, who is carrying on extensive and profitable agricultural operations in Elizabeth township, where he is the owner of a valuable property. Mr. See was born in this township, January 5, 1863, a son of Jacob and Ellen (Jackson) See. Jacob See, a native of Pennsylvania, was a young man when he migrated to Ohio, and, taking up his residence in Miami county, met and married Miss Jackson. They were engaged in agricultural operations here throughout the rest of their lives, living to advanced age and securing and holding the confidence and good will of those among whom their lives were spent. Of their children, two survive: William E., and Amanda, now the widow of Charles D. Martin, of Troy. William E. See was given his educational training in the district school located near the home farm and passed his boyhood and youth in assisting his father in the duties of the place. When he reached man's estate he adopted farming for his life work, and this vocation he has followed to the present, being the owner of a good property of eighty acres, on which he has commodious buildings and modern improvements. He is a practical farmer of modern tendencies and his intelligent use of up-to-date methods and machinery has assisted him in the working out of a worth-while success. Mr. See has discharged faithfully the duties of citizenship, and his financial help was freely given to various war movements during the time of his country's need. He has not been a seeker for public preferment. Mr. See married Clara, daughter of Wilson S. and Margaret (Wells) Hoover, of Elizabeth township. Mr. Hoover, a veteran of the Civil war, throughout which he served as a soldier of the Union, was for many years engaged actively in agricultural pursuits in Elizabeth township, but is now living in retirement near Troy, Ohio. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. See: Lauren W., the owner of a garage at Tippecanoe City, a sketch of whose career will be found elsewhere in this work, and Verna B., the wife of Joseph Curtis, who is associated with his father-in-law in the cultivation of the See farm.

Homer O. Senseman, a substantial young farmer of Bethel township, who is the owner and operator of a well-cultivated property, was born in this township, August 16, 1887, a son of Charles H. and Rhoda (Swallow) Senseman. The parents of Mr. Senseman have been long-time residents of Miami county, where they are well known and highly respected for their honorable lives and

worthy motives. Of their five children, four are living. Following the family custom, Homer O. Senseman was reared to the life of an agriculturist and his boyhood surroundings were all of a rural nature. His education was acquired in the district school and high school, from which he graduated. After the completion of his studies he applied himself to farming, in which he has been engaged to the present time. Since 1918 he has resided on his property of 175 acres, upon which he has a comfortable home, located on Tippecanoe City R. F. D. No. 1. He carries on general farming and raises some cattle of a good grade, and in his work is intelligent and practical. During the war period he served on a number of committees in his territory and was an active worker in behalf of a number of movements. He has several fraternal and social connections and a long list of friendships. Mr. Senseman married Pearl, daughter of George W. Rudy, an agriculturist of Miami county, and they are the parents of two children: Hugh and Phyllis.

John C. Suber, a well-known and highly regarded citizen of Fletcher, who has been engaged in the undertaking business here for thirty-nine years, was born in Miami county, a son of W. D. Suber. His father, a native of Bucks county, Pennsylvania, came to Ohio and settled in Butler county, in 1829; ten years later he came to Miami county, and settled in Brown township, where he rounded out a long and honorable career. W. D. Suber married Mary Caven, of Spring Creek township, daughter of a farmer and supervisor of that township. They became the parents of five children: two who died in infancy; George W., a farmer and member of the school board of Lena, Ohio; Oral M., and John C. John C. Suber attended the public schools of Lena and Conover and was still a young man when he embarked in the undertaking business at Fletcher in 1882. In the following year he secured a certificate of embalming from the Cincinnati Medical School, and in 1906 was given a state license after passing an examination at Toledo, Ohio. He has continued to maintain his undertaking establishment, in connection with which he conducts a large furniture and hardware business, and his activities have been attended with continuous and gratifying success. While Mr. Suber has been a busy merchant, whose time has been largely demanded by his personal interests, he has been by no means inactive as a citizen. He was a member of the Fletcher school board for four years, and during the war period was chairman of the Fletcher division of the Red Cross and canvassed Brown township in behalf of Liberty bonds, the war chest movement, etc. As a fraternalist he has been affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows since 1884 and the Knights of Pythias since 1887. He belongs to the Presbyterian church. In 1879 Mr. Suber married Sarah P. Carmony, who died in 1896, leaving one daughter, Bertha, who is 1911 married Clifford Hartley, of Piqua, and they have a son, John C., born August 13, 1913. In 1898, Mr. Suber married Margaret Thompson, who died in 1906, being survived by one son, William Dilts. In 1907 Mr. Suber was united in marriage with Mrs. Ella Robinson, who died without



JOHN C. SUBER

MRS. CLIFFORD HARTLEY

JOHN C. HARTLEY

W. D. SUBER

MARY (CAVEN) SUBER

issue. The present Mrs. Suber, with whom he was united in marriage in 1915, was formerly Mrs. Lodemia Moon. Mr. Suber was clerk of his township for two years. In 1894 he was ordained an elder in the Presbyterian church and is still serving in that capacity. In his professional work he was one of the first to adopt motor vehicles in the county.

Sumner Senseman. Several generations of the Senseman family have contributed to the agricultural development of Miami county and those bearing this name have been found invariably to be men of industry, energy and good citizenship. Among the representatives of this family in Bethel township, one who worthily maintains the highest principles and traditions of the name he bears is Sumner Senseman, a leading farmer and stock raiser and a citizen who has contributed to his community's welfare and progress. Mr. Senseman was born in Bethel township, Miami county, November 5, 1880, a son of Charles H. and Rhoda (Swallow) Senseman. His parents, natives of Ohio, passed their lives in the pursuits of farming here, and were known as honorable, God-fearing people, who tilled their acres with energy and who reared their family to lives of honesty and industry. They had four children to survive to maturity: Vira, wife of Harry C. Krider, of Tippecanoe, Ohio, died in October, 1918. A brother of Sumner Senseman, Homer O. Senseman, is a well-known farmer of Bethel township. Sumner Senseman obtained his education in the public schools and worked as his father's assistant on the home place until he reached the age of twenty years. At that time he commenced farming on his own account, and to this vocation he has devoted his activities uninterruptedly to the present time. Through painstaking labor and an intelligent use of modern methods he has developed a substantial property, one which pays him well for the labors which he expends upon it, and which bears the impress of his progressiveness in its modern improvements. This property, which Mr. Senseman has owned for sixteen years, is known as the old Studebaker and Coppock farm. Mr. Senseman was particularly active during the war period, when he was placed in charge of all Liberty bond drives in this township and likewise served on the executive committees of the war chest movement, was a solicitor for the Red Cross, and gave his unqualified aid to the citizens' relief enterprise. On January 1, 1903, Mr. Senseman was united in marriage with Deda Coppock, daughter of Jacob and Susan (Studebaker) Coppock, and to this union there have been born five children: Maynard, Roland, Virginia, Burdette and Evangeline.

John Sharits. Under present-day conditions, one of the most important members of the mayor's cabinet is the chief of police. At Troy, Ohio, this office is being very satisfactorily filled by John Sharits, an officer of experience, ability and courage. Chief Sharits was born at Germantown, Ohio, January 23, 1872, a son of John Wesley and Mary Alice (Emerick) Sharits, agricultural people of that community who were the parents of eleven children. With their children, John W. and Mary A. Sharits moved to Union City,

Ohio, and there John Sharits attended school. As a youth he learned the trade of blacksmith, which he followed at Union City and elsewhere until 1906, then moving to Troy, where he entered the services of the Troy Bentwood factory. Subsequently he became a member of the Troy police department, in addition to which he acted as merchant policeman. He was appointed chief of police of the Miami Trailer Company during the war period, and January 1, 1920, was appointed chief of police of Troy. In his official capacity he has shown marked resource in handling affairs during occasions of stress and excitement, and his courage and physical prowess have been put to the test repeatedly and not found wanting. Chief Sharits married Myrtle, daughter of Jacob and Alice (Myley) Elicker, two of whose brothers, Robert and Ralph Elicker, served with the American Expeditionary Forces during the great World war. To Chief and Mrs. Sharits there have been born eight children: Mary, Leslie, Edward, Maude, David, Harry, Jennie and John. The family holds membership in the First Christian Church of Troy, and Chief Sharits is a popular and valued member of the Knights of the Golden Eagle and the Loyal Order of Moose.

Samuel E. Shellhaas, whose long and honorable career as an agriculturist of Miami county entitles him to the general respect and esteem in which he is held, was born in Staunton township, Miami county, December 28, 1865, a son of Michael and Charlotte (Ullery) Shellhaas. The family has been known well and favorably in Miami county for many years and its members have been for the most part agriculturists. In their vocation they have been noted for their industry and progressiveness, and in their citizenship they have been supporters of beneficial movements and high principles. Michael Shellhaas was a worthy representative of this family as a farmer, citizen and man. He spent practically his entire life in Miami county, where he was engaged honorably and successfully as a farmer, and where he and his worthy wife were highly esteemed. They were the parents of ten children, of whom nine are living. Samuel E. Shellhaas was educated in the public schools of Staunton and Newton township, following which he began farming for his father. When he reached years of maturity he embarked in agricultural ventures of his own, and continued to be engaged in farming in Newton township until the spring of 1918, when he located on his present property in Elizabeth township. He is carrying on extensive operations on a farm of 102 acres, upon which he has installed modern improvements, which, with good buildings and modern equipment, serve to make his property attractive and valuable. He applies his efforts to general farming, a field in which he has met with success, and also raises a few hogs and cattle. In his newly adopted community he has become recognized as a man of intelligence and worth, of ability and public spirit. Mr. Shellhaas married Vinnie, daughter of William and Sarah (Longnecker) Mote, and to this union there have been born five children: Anna, who is deceased; Rev. Joseph, an evangelist, a resident of

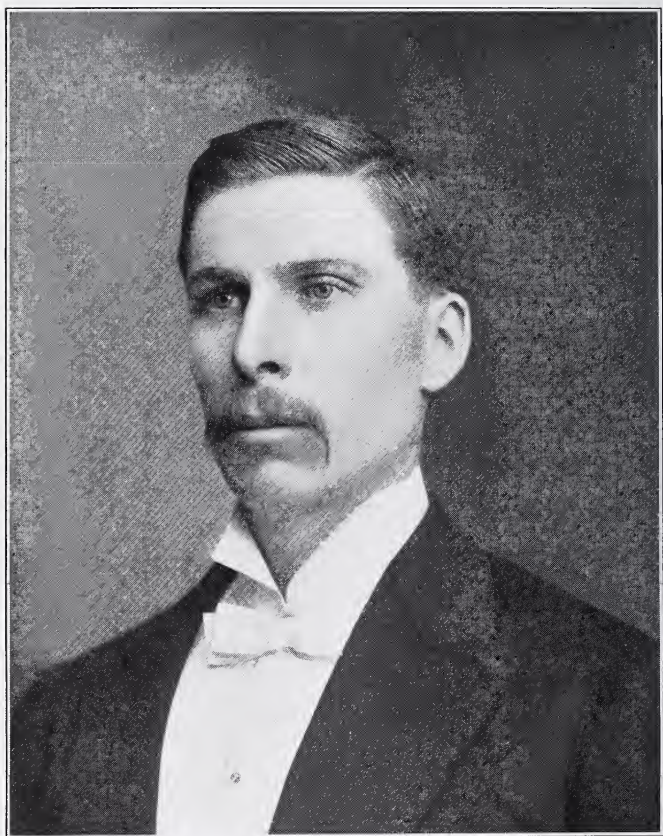
Lima; William, who was five months in the United States Army at Camp Sherman and Detroit, now associated with his father in the cultivation of the home farm; Glenna, who is the wife of Marc Stebelton, associated with the National Cash Register Company of Dayton, and Forrest, who is attending school and resides with his parents. During the World war period the members of this family were liberal in their support of the war chest and other movements, and took an active part in the campaign for the sale of Liberty bonds and the support of the Red Cross.

Harry E. Shilling, M. D. is one of the able physicians and surgeons of Troy, and also one of its versatile, broad and strong citizens. He was born at Troy, September 13, 1876, a son of Charles R. and Emma (Rebholz) Shilling, who were the parents of four children: David, bookkeeper at the plant of the Peter Kunz Lumber Company, Dayton, Ohio; Ida, who took a course at the Ohio State University, Columbus, where she taught for one year, later a teacher of domestic science in the public schools of Troy and at present in charge of food conservation at Kansas City, Mo.; Emma, who married E. E. Waite, of Vancouver, Wash., and Harry E. After many years spent in business activities at Troy, Charles R. Shilling is now living in comfortable and honorable retirement. Harry E. Shilling acquired his primary educational training in the public schools of Troy, and as a youth decided upon a career in the broad, difficult and interesting field of medicine and surgery. After some further preparation he entered the Cincinnati Medical College, from which he was duly graduated with the class of 1903 and the degree of Doctor of Medicine, and following this became an interne in the Cincinnati City Hospital, where he remained for eighteen months securing practical experience. In November, 1904, he came to Troy, where he established himself in the practice of his calling, and since that time his professional patronage has shown a gratifying growth, both in importance and in emoluments. He now occupies a leading position among the medical and surgical men of his county, and his worth both professionally and as a citizen is fully recognized. He belongs to the Miami County Medical Society, the Ohio State Medical Society and the American Medical Association, and has various civic connections at Troy, in addition to which he is fraternally affiliated with the local lodges of the Masonic order, the Odd Fellows and the Woodmen of the World. Doctor Shilling married Clara, daughter of Webb Prugh, of Piqua, Ohio, and to this union there were born four children: Katherine, Lon, Harry, and Robert, the last named being deceased. Doctor and Mrs. Shilling are also rearing a boy, David.

Wade H. Shilling, who has been prominently identified with the business interests of Troy for a number of years, and now the proprietor of one of the city's leading undertaking and funeral directing establishments, was born at Troy, March 2, 1876, a son of Townsend C. and Jennie (Hartzell) Shilling. His brother, Eugene G. Shilling, is in charge of the furniture department of Elder & Johnston's department store, at Dayton. Townsend C.

Shilling was during his day, one of the best known business men of Troy, having been engaged in the furniture and undertaking business in this city for nearly forty years. He was a man of high principles and the strictest integrity, and in his death, which occurred June 2, 1919, his community lost an upright man and a reliable, public-spirited citizen. Wade H. Shilling attended the public schools of Troy, and as a youth began to learn the undertaking business under the preceptorship of his father. Later, he pursued a course in the Cincinnati College of Embalming, and when he was graduated therefrom accepted employment in his father's business, which was then conducted as Shilling & Roberts, a concern with which he was identified for about fifteen years. In 1913 or 1914 he embarked in business on his own account at Troy and through honorable methods and fair representation has attracted public confidence and patronage. Mr. Shilling's establishment is fully equipped for the proper and reverent care of the dead, and includes a private chapel and automobile service. He is interested in fraternal affairs, belonging to the local lodges of the Masons and Improved Order of Red Men, in both of which he has numerous friends. During the period of the participation of the United States in the great World war, he contributed his full share to the local movements which assisted the country's fighting forces. He has not cared for politics, but takes a good citizen's interest in the welfare of his community and supports able men and good measures. Mr. Shilling married Gertrude, adopted daughter of John Wilson, of Troy, and they are the parents of one child, Joseph.

Joseph S. Shinn, M. D. Among the medical practitioners of Miami county who have worked their way to recognition, one who is favorably known because of his attainments as a specialist in the cure of blood diseases is Dr. Joseph S. Shinn, of Troy. He was born in Adams county, Ohio, February 3, 1879, a son of Joseph W. and Laura M. (Swearingner) Shinn, natives of the same county, where his father was a leading member of the bar and served as county auditor, county clerk and prosecuting attorney. He was finally elected to the Ohio legislature in 1888-1889, and was one of the leading members of that distinguished body, being sponsor of the bill which validated titles for farmers on certain lands in question. He died at West Union, in 1891. He and his wife were the parents of two children: Joseph S. and Nellie. Joseph S. Shinn attended the public schools and normal school at West Union, following which he commenced a course at Starling Medical College, from which he was graduated with his degree in 1905. He specialized in the treatment and cure of blood diseases of a virulent type, and after taking post-graduate work at Chicago began practice at Troy in 1905. Here he soon built up a large and lucrative practice, which he gave up September 26, 1918, to enter the United States Army medical service at Fort Oglethorpe as first lieutenant, hospital corps. His services were confined to treating all enlisted men infected with virulent blood diseases and segregating them from their fellows until they had been successfully treated. His military



DR. T. H. TROUTE



MRS. T. H. TROUTE

duties completed and his honorable discharge secured, Doctor Shinn returned to Troy, January 1, 1920, and since that time has been engaged in caring for his practice as a specialist. He has something more than a local reputation as an authority and expert in his particular line of research, to which he has devoted much study, investigation and thought. He spent much time and money in advocating the passage of the Hughes law, which would have provided for the segregation and treatment of persons infected with communicable sexual diseases. He belongs to the various organizations of his profession, including the county, state and national medical bodies, and is a Mason and a member of the American Legion. He married Marvel, daughter of John Henry Winters, of Troy. They have no children.

F. M. Shipley, secretary-treasurer and general manager of the Piqua Hosiery Company, of Piqua, Ohio, and a business man of recognized worth and standing, was born at Piqua, November 22, 1874, a son of J. W. and Harriet (Griggs) Shipley. J. W. Shipley was a well-known resident and merchant of this community, where he likewise served efficiently for some years in the capacity of postmaster. He was likewise a veteran of the Civil war, in which he fought as a private in an Ohio volunteer infantry regiment. F. M. Shipley acquired his education in the Piqua public schools, and after working at various occupations rose to the position of manager of the Columbus plant of the Piqua Handle Company. Later he became an active official in the management of the Columbus Iron & Steel Company, and eventually came to his present firm, the Piqua Hosiery Company, of which he is secretary and treasurer, also its general manager. During the war period, aside from the industrial activities of the Piqua Hosiery Company, which worked on Government contracts, Mr. Shipley took an active part in various war movements. He had charge of the factory employees' division in the war loan drives and also interested himself in the Red Cross funds. He and his family are consistent members of St. James Episcopal Church, and he is a Mason and a Shriner and holds membership in the Piqua Club and the Piqua Rotary Club. Mr. Shipley married Elizabeth K., daughter of William W. Wood, and to this union there have been born two children: Elizabeth W. and Robert.

T. H. Troute, M. D., a leading physician and surgeon of Miami county, particularly well known in the field of abdominal surgery, has been engaged in a successful practice at Tippecanoe City since 1911. He is a native of Hamilton county, Ohio, born September 7, 1869, a son of John S. and Sarah Martha (McGregor) Troute, his father having been a prominent farmer and tobacco grower of Hamilton county. There were four children in the family: David, who is an ex-member of the police force at Cincinnati; Alonzo, bookkeeper for a coal mining company, in West Virginia; Charlie, who is a trainer and owner of race horses in the East, and Dr. T. H. T. H. Troute attended the public schools of Hamilton county, including the high school at Russellville, fol-

lowing which he pursued a course at the University of Cincinnati, and then spent four years in studying medicine at that institution. Graduated in 1898 with the degree of Doctor of Medicine, he began practice at Cincinnati, and then entered the service of the United States Government, in Kentucky, continuing to be thus engaged from February 4, 1900, until 1903. Returning then to Cincinnati, he practiced in that city until 1911, May 3 of which year he began his activities at Tippecanoe City, where he has since become one of the leading physicians and surgeons of Miami county. Doctor Troute carries on a general practice, but specializes to some extent in abdominal surgery, a department in which he is an acknowledged authority. He belongs to the various organizations of his profession, county, state and national, and has an excellent standing in the esteem of his fellow-practitioners, by whom he is called into consultation frequently. He likewise has a number of important civic, business and social connections and is accepted as a valuable and public-spirited member of his community. Doctor Troute married Ida, daughter of William Ramsey, of Georgetown, Brown county, Ohio, and to this union there have been born two children: John W., an automobile mechanic of Tippecanoe City, and Hazel, the wife of Leslie Eickhoff, of Tippecanoe City. In 1920 the doctor was persuaded to run for coroner and was the only Democrat elected, receiving a majority of 7,253. The county went Republican by 5,209, showing the popularity of the doctor.

Leonard H. Shipman is not only an attorney of high professional standing and attainments, but a business man of sound judgment and breadth of view and during the twenty-one years that he has followed his profession at Troy has filled a prominent position in the life of the community. He was born near St. Mary's, Ohio, October 23, 1874, a son of John N. and Louise A. (Haas) Shipman, and a grandson of John L. Shipman, a well-known miller of Auglaize county, Ohio, who fought as a soldier of the Union during the war between the states. Lewis C. Shipman, a brother of Leonard H., was a member of the Eighteenth Field Artillery during the great World war and saw eighteen months of overseas service, while another brother, John Shipman, was a member of the United States Army veterinary corps. Leonard H. Shipman attended the country district schools near St. Mary's, and the high school at St. Mary's, the National Normal School, at Lebanon, and the law department of the Ohio State University. After the courts had admitted him to practice he took up his profession at Troy, in 1899, and here has continued ever since in the enjoyment of a professional business that reflects in its size and importance the measure of his skill and learning and the high place which he has attained in the ranks of Miami county attorneys. During the period in which he has applied himself to his calling, he has likewise interested himself in business and financial affairs, and at this time is a director in the First National Bank, a director in and second vice-president of the Troy Wagon Works, a director in the Skinner Irrigation Company, and president of the Quilling-Brock

Company, of Piqua. He is a member of the official board and secretary of the Feghtly Lutheran Home, a refuge for aged ladies at Tippecanoe City. In fraternal work, Mr. Shipman is prominent, being a well-known Mason, generalissimo of Coleman Commandery, Knights Templar, and is a member of the Consistory, of Dayton, and of the Mystic Shrine, and is likewise past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias. He has other civic and social connections, including membership in the Troy Club. Mr. Shipman is the proud possessor of a medal awarded him by the United States Government for his patriotic work during the war period in which he was a convincing and result-attaining four-minute man, attorney for the relief committee of the Red Cross Society, chairman of the Red Cross for one year, a member of the committee for soldiers' relief and an untiring worker in behalf of the war loans. In this work he had as an able and energetic assistant, Mrs. Shipman, who rendered valiant and valuable services to the Red Cross and to other activities. Mrs. Shipman was formerly Miss Jessie G. Shannon, daughter of Samuel H. Shannon. She and Mr. Shipman are the parents of one son, Franklin L.

J. W. Shrader. Belonging to that class of citizens who have passed their entire lives on the same property and have followed no other vocation than that of the agriculturist, J. W. Shrader also typifies the solid and substantial type of tillers of the soil upon whom the nation is dependent for its food supplies. This progressive and intelligent Monroe township agriculturist was born on the farm which he now owns and operates, on December 22, 1873, a son of William and Elizabeth (Knife) Shrader. William Shrader was well and favorably known as an agriculturist in Monroe township for many years and had the respect and confidence of those with whom he was associated. He made a success of his affairs, being a man of industry and possessed of good managerial abilities, and during the war between the states fought as a soldier of the Union. He and his wife were the parents of two children who grew to maturity: J. W., and Mrs. Susan Burnside. J. W. Shrader acquired a public school education in the country districts, and has always lived on the home place, of which he became the owner after the death of his parents. He has a farm consisting of fifty acres, in addition to which he farms another fifty acres, which is well improved in every way, and carries on general farming and stock raising in a way that insures success. He married, July 28, 1901, May, daughter of Elijah and Rosa (Fisher) Rutter, residents of Tippecanoe City, Ohio, and to this union there has been born one son, William E., who is assisting his father in the work of the home place. The good citizenship that has always characterized Mr. Shrader's career was particularly evident during the period of the World war, when he was a loyal support of all war movements and activities.

Andrew Smith. In Andrew Smith, of the firm of Fisher & Smith, Piqua has a business man who conforms his activities to high standards and who is advancing to prosperity on qualities of

industry, good judgment and perseverance. He was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, February 13, 1874, a son of Andrew and Julia (Stroefer) Smith, and was educated in the public schools of Piqua, to which place his parents had moved when he was a child. After leaving school, he mastered the harness-maker's trade, and later joined in partnership C. G. Fisher, under the firm name of Fisher & Smith. This business has since grown to be one of marked prominence at Piqua, being widely known for its excellent line of leather goods, harness and automobile accessories. Mr. Smith is an earnest, painstaking gentleman, a business man of sound and reliable qualities, and a man whose integrity and worth are known and appreciated by a wide circle of friends. He married Miss Caroline Frances Graef, of Piqua, and they have one son, Stephen. While Mr. Smith is essentially a merchant and has little desire for political prestige or public prominence, he is likewise a good citizen who takes an active interest in local affairs and supports good measures to the limit of his abilities. During the war period he was generous in his contributions to the movements that were formulated to insure the success of American arms. As a fraternalist he has been active for some years, and at present holds membership in the local lodges of the Knights of Pythias, Masons and Improved Order of Red Men, in all of which he has numerous friends. With Mrs. Smith, he belongs to the Presbyterian church.

Stanley R. Smith, senior member of the firm of Smith & Parsons, proprietors of a garage and dealers in farm implements at Tippecanoe City, is one of the energetic and substantial business men of his community. He was born in Staunton township, Miami county, July 27, 1874, a son of Robert R. and Jane (Snyder) Smith. His father, a native of England, immigrated to the United States in young manhood, and during the Civil war joined an Ohio contingent of 100-day men. Later he engaged in agricultural pursuits in Miami county in which he continued to be occupied until his retirement from active affairs, and since then has been making his home with his son, Stanley R. He and his wife, who is now deceased, were the parents of nine children, of whom six are still living. Stanley R. Smith received his education in the country schools and grew up as a farmer's son. He spent about five years in farming after reaching manhood and then became a salesman of farm implements for his brother-in-law, R. H. Deam, of Phoneton, for whom he worked for ten years. Next, Mr. Smith entered the employ of the International Harvester Company as a traveling salesman and continued to be thus employed for ten years. In 1918 he embarked in the garage and implement business at Tippecanoe City, where he first bought a half-interest from Mr. Snell, and after three months bought out his partner, and took as his associate Mr. Parsons, with whom he has since been in partnership under the firm style of Smith & Parsons. The concern conducts a large garage and salesroom, acts as agent for the Chevrolet and Oldsmobile automobiles, and handles a complete and up-to-date line of farm implements, automobile accessories, tires, etc. Under excellent

management the business is prospering greatly and is now recognized as a reliable commercial adjunct of the city's business interests. Mr. Smith is a man of energy, progressive ideas and acknowledged ability, and his long experience in the implement business makes him thoroughly familiar with all its principles. In addition to the Oldsmobile, the firm handles Chevrolet cars and during the period that it has handled these two makes has had numerous sales, with a consequent number of added friends as represented by satisfied customers. Mr. Smith first married Alta Welch, daughter of J. W. Welch, of New Carlisle, Ohio, and they had one son, Russell, now identified with the International Harvester Company. During the World war, Russell Smith enlisted in the United States Aviation corps, in which he served about one year, being stationed first at Columbus, later at Kelly Flying Field, Tex., and finally at Fort Sill, Okla. The present Mrs. Smith was formerly Ella, daughter of Levi Short, of Troy, Ohio, and they have three children: Iris, Mildred and Janette. Mr. Smith is a popular member of the local lodges of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Masons, and holds membership in the United Commercial Travelers. He has always exemplified good citizenship and during the war period was a contributor to all movements for the accumulation of war funds.

John A. Smith, a progressive and wide-awake merchant of Tippecanoe City, where he is proprietor of a general merchandise store, was born at Wapakoneta, Ohio, in 1866, a son of Joseph and Bertha (Wahree) Smith. The family came to Tippecanoe City in 1881 and here John A. Smith completed his education in the public schools and in 1885 began the conduct of a cigar store and barber shop. Later he established his present business, in which he handles a general line of merchandise, periodicals, stationery, etc., and maintains a well-patronized soda fountain. Mr. Smith has been the architect of his own fortune and has worked his way to a substantial and satisfying business success. He has also shown a commendable interest in public affairs, and for some years served as justice of the peace. Mr. Smith has the distinction of having purchased the first Liberty bond bought at Tippecanoe City, and during the war period served as explosive license inspector. He is thoroughly alive to his opportunities, is a man of the strictest integrity, and during his career at Tippecanoe City has made and maintained many sincere friendships. Mrs. Smith, a native of Miami county, was formerly Miss Nellie Herr.

Loren D. Snapp. Both Logan and Miami counties have profited by the agricultural ability and good citizenship of Loren D. Snapp, who since 1905 has been a resident of the latter county, where he owns and operates a well-cultivated and productive farm in Elizabeth township. Mr. Snapp was born on a farm in Auglaize county, Ohio, December 26, 1876, a son of Hamilton and Felena (Rogers) Snapp. His parents were highly respected farming people of Auglaize county, where they resided for some years, but later moved to Logan county and finally to Miami county, where

they rounded out their careers. They were industrious and God-fearing people, reared their children to lives of industry and honesty and had the respect and esteem of those among whom they made their home in their several communities. Loren D. Snapp was given the advantages of a public school education in Auglaize, and as a lad was taken by his parents to Logan county, where he grew to manhood and engaged in agricultural pursuits. That community continued to be his home until he was nearly thirty years of age, but in 1905 he came to Miami county, attracted by the opportunities offered in this region, and his home has since been in Elizabeth township, where he is now engaged in farming a valuable and productive tract of eighty acres. Mr. Snapp has installed modern improvements and equipment and has erected substantial buildings, adding value and attractiveness to his property, which he devotes to the cultivation of general crops and the raising of a small herd of cattle of a good grade. His reputation in business circles is that of a man of high principles and proved integrity, and as a citizen his public spirit has been made evident on a number of occasions. During the World war period he was one of the most active workers in Elizabeth township, where he had charge of various committees and assisted materially in raising funds which helped the county to maintain its quota. He married Lola Keesecker, daughter of John and Martha (Souders) Keesecker. Mrs. Snapp died March 18, 1903, leaving three children: Paul W., who married Lorie Leffel, and they reside in Miami county, the parents of one child, Bettie Louise; Ellena May, the wife of Roy Saylor, who resides in Akron, and Vance, who died at the age of sixteen years. Mr. Snapp married as his second wife, March 25, 1914, Addie, daughter of George and Della (Thompson) Spigelmoyer, of Brown township, Miami county, and the former are the parents of two daughters, Doris Virginia, and Mary Felena. Mr. Snapp is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Grace Reformed Church of Alcony, Ohio.

D. G. Wenrick, secretary and treasurer of the Buckeye State Mutual Insurance Company and president of the Stillwater Valley Bank, of Covington, and one of his community's most highly valued and respected citizen, was born in Adams township, Darke county, Ohio, November 25, 1849, a son of David and Elizabeth (Grubb) Wenrick. David Wenrick, a native of Harrisburg, Pa., was a carpenter by trade and followed that vocation during his early years, but later turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and spent the greater part of his life therein in Darke county. Elizabeth Grubb was of Dutch ancestry and was born near Covington. They were the parents of the following children: John, Levi, D. G., Isaac, Mrs. Mary Reiff, Mrs. Hettie Bosseman, Malinda, the wife of J. S. Royer, of Bradford, Ohio, and Martha, the wife of S. B. Baughman, of Bradford. D. G. Wenrick attended the public schools in the country in Darke county and after pursuing a normal course took up the vocation of an educator. For fifteen years he taught in the rural districts of Adams and New-



MR. AND MRS. D. G. WENRICK

berry townships, Darke county, and subsequently turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. Later he became one of the organizers and secretary of the German Baptist Mutual Insurance Association, now known as the Buckeye State Mutual, of which he has since been an official for some years. A history of this concern will be found in the general history of Miami county elsewhere in this work. Mr. Wenrick has been president of the Stillwater Valley Bank since 1917 and has various connections of a business, social and civic character that contribute to make him one of his community's most prominent men. As a citizen he has supported public-spiritedly all movements for the welfare of his locality. Mr. Wenrick married Miss Barbara Ellen Babylon, of Covington, and they have two children, who grew to maturity: Sherman, who married Dora Kertcher and has three children, Etoile, Raymond and Leslie; and Florence, who married L. S. Schellenberger and has one child, Lela Frances. Mr. Wenrick for twenty-one years was a member of the board of education of Adams township, Darke county. He and his family are members of the Church of the Brethren, and he has been deacon for many years.

Joseph Benson Snell. Among the agriculturists of Miami county, and particularly those of the younger generation, there are to be found many who have passed the entire period of their lives on the properties which they now occupy. In this class is Joseph Benson Snell, of Bethel township, a progressive and energetic young farmer whose intelligent and practical labors are rapidly making him known as one of the substantial men of his township. Mr. Snell was born on his present farm, in 1888, a son of Jacob and Nancy (Studebaker) Snell, farming people of Miami county. His father, an early resident of this locality, secured the present Snell farm and made numerous improvements thereon, and during the many years that he operated this land established a reputation as a reliable citizen and an honorable man of business. Joseph B. Snell attended the public schools of the rural districts and as a youth adopted farming for his life work, and this, with stock raising, has since commanded his attention. He has won success through industry and close application and well merits the general confidence in which he is held. He was active during the World war as a solicitor during the drives for the war chest and in behalf of Liberty bonds, and has always played the part of a good citizen in civic affairs. Mr. Snell married Daisy, daughter of G. T. Parsons, of Tippecanoe City, and sister of John Cassius Parsons, who underwent training at Camp Sherman for service in the World war. Mr. and Mrs. Snell are the parents of two children: Jacob and Lester.

Mrs. Kate Snyder, a well-known and highly esteemed resident of Piqua R. F. D. No. 2, in Brown township, and the owner of a good farm in that community, was born December 9, 1858, in Clermont county, Ohio, a daughter of James and Julia (Hopkins) Long. Her father was an agriculturist and for some years made his home

at Batavia, the county seat of Clermont county, while he was serving in public offices. When she was a small child, Mrs. Snyder witnessed a raid of the Confederate, Morgan, and his men, in her home city, the daring Southerner swooping down upon the town and confiscating groceries, clothing, guns and all manner of supplies before being driven out by hastily gathered Federal troops. The raiders were pursued for some distance and twelve of their number taken. Like her brothers and sisters, Mrs. Snyder was given a high school education and was reared in a home of culture and plenty. December 31, 1876, she was united in marriage with John H. Snyder, who came of an old family of farming people of Spring Creek township, and following their union they settled on the farm in Brown township, where they lived in happiness together until the death of Mr. Snyder, May 9, 1919. Mr. Snyder was one of the prominent and influential men of his community, where he was the owner of a farm of 120 acres, and had the full confidence of his fellow-citizens, who elected him road supervisor and he served for many years. He was also school director many years. In his death his locality lost a good and dependable citizen and a man whose loss was mourned by a wide circle of friends. Since his death Mrs. Snyder has continued to live on the home place, where she is surrounded by modern comforts and conveniences and by the affectionate regard of a wide circle of close acquaintances. She has always been generous and charitable, and during the war period was liberal in her support of the Liberty Bond and Red Cross campaigns. She and her husband were the parents of five children: Harley C., born in 1878, who married in 1899, Artie Sayres, of Brown township, formerly of Xenia, Ohio, is now engaged in operating the home farm for his mother, and has three children, the eldest of whom, Lucille, is a graduate of the Sidney High School and is now attending Ideal Business College, of Piqua, in order to prepare herself for a career as a stenographer; Jessie B., born in 1880, who married Rev. Alva Houseman, a preacher at Covington and Eagle Creek, and has two children, Monta, aged eight years, and John, aged eighteen months; May, born in 1883, who married, December 14, 1903, Burton Caven, and he died March 15, 1917; Margaret, who died in infancy, and Arminta, born in 1886, who married Cliff Russell, of Spring Creek township, now living at Mingo Junction, with one daughter, Catherine, who is attending Piqua High School. Mr. Snyder attended Spring Creek Christian Church, of which he was a deacon and trustee, and held these offices many years. He was a Democrat.

William Andrew Snyder. Of the men who have long lent dignity and progressiveness to business interests of Piqua, none are held in higher esteem and confidence than William Andrew Snyder, chairman of the executive board of the Pioneer Pole & Shaft Company. Mr. Snyder was born at Albany, N. Y., December 5, 1858, a son of A. G. and Elizabeth (Carroll) Snyder. He was educated in the public schools of Ashtabula, Ohio, to which place his father, a wood bender by trade, had taken his family, and there

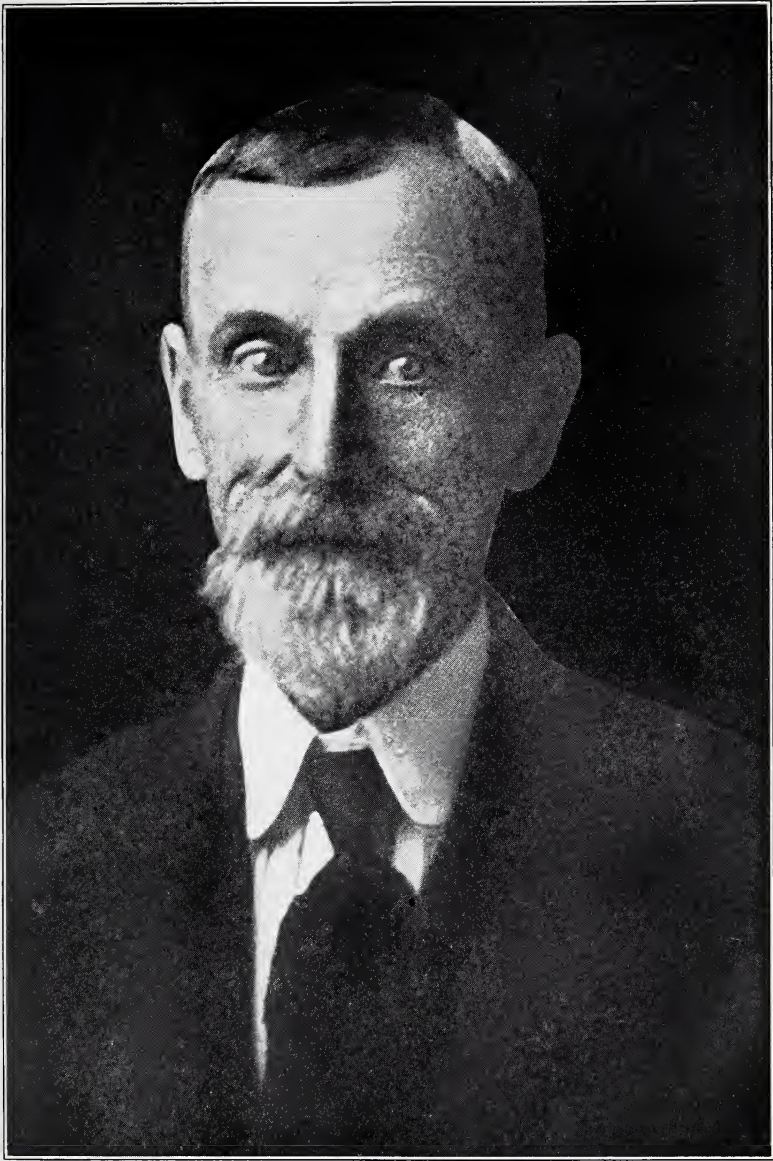
the lad, upon the completion of his studies, engaged in business with his father in the same line of work. When the family came to Piqua, in 1881, there was founded the firm of Snyder & Son, for the manufacture of poles and shafts for buggies, wagons, etc., and this continued in existence until 1900, when the firm of Snyder's Sons Company was incorporated. This concern later sold out to the Pioneer Pole & Shaft Company, one of Piqua's largest industries, a complete history of which will be found in the industrial section of this work. In the capacity of chairman of the executive board of this firm Mr. Snyder has continued to exert the same wholesome and beneficial influence which assisted through the years in building up the business to large proportions and which helped to make him one of the leading business figures of his community. His other interests are numerous and important, in business, financial and civic circles, and few men have had a more important part in promulgating, fostering and bringing to a successful conclusion movements which have contributed to the welfare and betterment of the city in various ways. He took an active and leading part in the various activities which assisted in the successful maintenance of our armies in the field during the great war and was a member of the several war loan committees. He is a valued member of several fraternal societies and his name has been linked with enterprises which have made for the advancement of education and better citizenship. Mr. Snyder married Fannie E., daughter of Dr. P. E. Hall, a dental practitioner of Ashtabula, and to this union there have been born two children: Mrs. Grace O. Rundle and A. G. Snyder, both of Piqua.

Leo Dent Spiesman, D. D. S., one of the rising younger members of the Miami county dental fraternity, was born at Upper Sandusky, Ohio, April 30, 1893, a son of Edwin Spiesman. The only son of his father and the latter's wife, formerly a Miss Henderson, Doctor Spiesman received his early education in the public schools and was graduated from the high school at Bowling Green, Ohio. He then pursued a full course at the Ohio State College of Dentistry and when he graduated therefrom was for a time associated in practice with several other established dentists. Eventually, in May, 1918, he came to Troy, where he opened an office of his own, and since that time has become recognized as a skilled, careful and thoroughly learned practitioner, and has built up a large and lucrative practice. He belongs to the various organizations of his calling, in which he is held in high esteem and has numerous friends. During the war period he held a first lieutenant in the dental reserve corps. Doctor Spiesman is fraternally affiliated with the local lodges of the Knights of Pythias and the Elks.

Joseph Spangler. An example of well-applied industry is found in the handsome and highly cultivated farm of 165 acres in Spring Creek township which is the property of Joseph Spangler. Mr. Spangler, who is one of the substantial citizens of his locality, was born in Miami county, a son of Leopold and Christina (Schuler)

Spangler. Leopold Spangler, who spent many years in agricultural pursuits in Miami county, died several years ago, greatly respected by all who knew him. There were five children in the family: Joseph, John, William, Frank and Mrs. Mary Schaefer. A son of John Spangler, Clarence, served in France during the recent World war. Joseph Spangler was educated in the district schools and passed his boyhood and youth on the home farm. He early adopted agriculture as his life vocation, and at the present time is the owner and operator of a well-improved and highly cultivated farm of 165 acres in Spring Creek township. Good buildings and modern improvements evidence his progressive spirit and industry, and his standing in his community is that of a dependable and public-spirited citizen. Mr. Spangler married Miss Minnie Schlosser, a daughter of John and Gertrude (Wegener) Schlosser, highly respected citizens of Piqua, now deceased, and they are the parents of three children: Joseph, Gertrude and Elizabeth, a graduate of Piqua High School, class of 1921, at home. Mr. Spangler is independent in his political views. He is a member of the Knights of St. John, the Holy Name Society, and the St. Boniface Catholic Church, of Piqua.

Josiah N. Wiley. One of the old and honored residents of Elizabeth township, Josiah N. Wiley is also a veteran of the Civil war, in which great struggle he was wounded six times. At present he is somewhat retired from active labors, after a long and honorable career as an agriculturist, but continues to take an interest in farming matters, as well as in affairs which have a bearing upon the welfare of his community and its people. Mr. Wiley was born in Pennsylvania, November 27, 1843, a son of James and Margaret (Nelson) Wiley, and is the only survivor of a family of five children. Mr. Wiley began his education in his native state, but when he was eight years of age was taken by his parents to Clark county, Ohio, where he resided for four years, during which time he attended the district school. His education was completed in Elizabeth township, where he was brought when twelve years of age, and where he has lived ever since, with the exception of the time that he served in the Union Army. Mr. Wiley grew up to sturdy young manhood, and when the call for troops came early in the Civil war, enlisted in Company A, Eighth regiment, Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, an organization with which he was identified for four years, seeing much hard service and taking part in numerous hard-fought and important engagements. During this service he received wounds on six occasions, the most serious being made by a bullet which lodged in his shoulder. When disabled by this injury he was captured by the enemy and spent seven months in Libby prison. He also had two brothers. From a strong robust young man, he became a weakling, so emaciated that he weighed only sixty-four pounds at the time of his release and exchange. This wound has troubled him more or less all his life, and was the probable reason for a recent paralytic stroke, from which Mr. Wiley is now recovering. After securing his honorable



JOSIAH N. WILEY

discharge from the army, Mr. Wiley returned to Elizabeth township and engaged in farming. As the years passed he added to his holdings from time to time, until he is now owner of 400 acres of valuable property, which he rents to tenants. He is looked upon as one of the substantial intelligent and reliable men of his community, and has always supported worthy movements. This trait was particularly noticeable during the recent war period, when he contributed liberally to all movements. Mr. Wiley married Sallie Stratton, daughter of Orrie Stratton, who died without issue. For his second wife he was united October 27, 1896, with Mrs. A. (Beard) Thompson, a daughter of John and Margaret (Shellabarger) Beard, well-known and highly esteemed farming people of Miami county, deceased. By her former marriage, Mrs. Wiley had four daughters: Edna, residing at home with her mother; Ollie, wife of Harley Stockstill, residing at Dayton; Alma, wife of George Fissel, residing in St. Marys, Ohio, the parents of one daughter, Bettie, and Margaret, wife of George Goodall, residing in Auburn, Ind., the parents of one daughter, Lucy. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wiley are highly esteemed in Elizabeth township, where their pleasant home in the New Carlisle community is always open to their many warm friends.

F. Will Steil, one of the leading merchants of Troy, Ohio, is proprietor of that city's largest dry goods establishment. He was born in Troy, June 4, 1879, the son of Fred and Christina (Ziegenfelder) Steil. Fred Steil was born in Rhenish Bavaria, Germany, but convinced that greater opportunity for advancement awaited him in the United States, emigrated from his native country. In 1865, he settled in Troy, where his uncle had already located and had operated a store since 1859. In 1878, Fred Steil bought this business and founded the present dry goods store, which is now the largest and most up-to-date in Troy. F. Will Steil, the only child of his parents, received his education in the public schools of Troy, and upon graduation entered the employ of his father. He began at the bottom of the ladder, and learned every phase of the business so thoroughly that when he became sole owner at the time of his father's death in 1908, he was well equipped to take over the complete management of the concern. With a well-defined and honorable method of conducting his business affairs he has gained the confidence of the community, and has a large and satisfied patronage. In addition to his store interests Mr. Steil finds time to act as a director in the Troy Building Association. He is extremely active in fraternal circles, and is a popular member of the Masons as a Knight Templar and Shriner, and also holds membership in the Knights of Pythias, Woodmen of the World, Junior Order of American Mechanics, and the Rotary Club. During the recent war he was one of the most active workers in Troy in behalf of the various war drives, having been chairman of the local labor board, a member of the committee in charge of the publicity for the war chest drive, and county chairman of the merchant's division of the war savings stamps, Red Cross and similar campaigns. Mr. Steil

married Fay, daughter of C. T. Gibson, of Troy, and to them has been born one daughter, Winifred, a graduate of 1920 from the Troy High School, who is a freshman in Western College, Oxford, Ohio. Mr. Steil and his family hold membership in the Presbyterian church.

Damon M. Stahr, D. O., who has won recognized standing among the professional men of Piqua through his success as a practitioner of osteopathy, was born at Cambridge City, Ind., in June, 1888, a son of William P. and Mary E. (Michael) Stahr. William P. Stahr was the proprietor of a hotel at Cambridge City, and later removed to Elkhart, Ind., where he established himself in the grocery business. He and his wife were the parents of five children: Frank G., editor of the Elkhart Truth; Margaret E., in business in South Bend, Ind.; Roberta L., confidential secretary, Elkhart, Ind.; J. P., purchasing agent for the Dodge Manufacturing Company, of Mishawaka, Ind., and Damon M. Damon M. Stahr received his early education in the graded and high schools of Elkhart, Ind., and later became a student at the American School of Osteopathy, at Kirksville, Mo., from which he was graduated in 1914. Soon thereafter he located at Piqua, where he has since built up an excellent practice, and at this time occupies well-appointed offices on the third floor of the Orr-Flesh building. Doctor Stahr has gained public confidence by the success which has attended his handling of several serious cases and his professional business is of the best kind that can be secured by a man of his vocation. He belongs to the Piqua Club, the Rotary Club, the Young Men's Christian Association and the Masons, and with his family holds membership in the Presbyterian church. Both he and Mrs. Stahr were very active in all movements pertaining to the assisting of the winning of the great war, and Mrs. Stahr was particularly effective in her work in behalf of the Red Cross. In May, 1915, Dr. Stahr married Leah M., daughter of Ellis M. Drake, who is superintendent of schools of Kalamazoo, Mich., and an educator of note. One child, Paul Herbert, has been born to Doctor and Mrs. Stahr.

George H. Statler. One of the large land holders and extensive and successful farmers of Washington township, George H. Statler is also one of his community's progressive and public-spirited citizens. He was born in Miami county, where he has passed his whole life, June 27, 1881, and is a son of Samuel K. and Clara E. (Kinsman) Statler. His father, who was a life-long agriculturist of Miami county, was a veteran of the Civil war, in which he saw eighteen months of service as a member of an Ohio volunteer infantry regiment. In war and peace he was faithful and trustworthy and established an excellent record for conscientious performance of duty. He and his worthy wife, both deceased, were the parents of two children: Elizabeth K., who married Will Harr, of Troy, Ohio, and George H. George H. Statler was given the advantages of attendance at the schools of Piqua, but was brought up on the farm and reared as a farmer's son. He assisted

his father in the work of the home place until he reached years of maturity, at which time he entered upon operations as an agriculturist on his own account. Mr. Statler married Minnie S., daughter of John Shimmel, of Piqua, and following their union they settled down to agricultural pursuits in Washington township. From modest beginnings Mr. Statler has developed into one of the largest landowners in Washington township, where he is the possessor of 600 acres of valuable land, all in a high state of cultivation. He operates his land along modern lines and has it improved with good buildings and modern improvements in the way of machinery and equipment. He contributed liberally to the war drives during the period of the World war, and as a citizen has shown his public spirit by his support of worthy civic movements. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Statler: Neil, born in 1913; Jean, born in 1915, and Amy, born in 1919.

Louis J. Stelzer. The career of Louis J. Stelzer, junior member of the firm of Neth & Stelzer, tailors, haberdashers and hatters, of Piqua, has been one of steady advancement from modest beginnings to a place among the staple business men of his city. His entire life has been passed at Piqua, where he was born July 30, 1876, a son of John and Mary (Bartel) Stelzer, his father being a cooper who conducted a cooperage at Piqua for many years. His maternal grandfather, Adam Bartel, was one of the early shoe dealers and manufacturers of Piqua, where he was well known among the members of an earlier generation. Louis J. Stelzer attended St. Boniface parochial school and prepared for a business career by taking a course in a commercial college. His first practical experience in a mercantile line was secured as an employee of the firm of Flesh-Prugh & Company, and when this firm was succeeded by Flesh & Louis he remained with the new organization. There he had as a fellow-employee, Louis C. Neth, and in 1910 the two established themselves in business as Neth & Stelzer and at this time have an excellent business, which has been built up through the exercise of fertile mental resource and much industry. They carry a complete line of men's furnishings, hats, haberdashery and made-to-order clothing, and their business is a constantly growing one. Mr. Stelzer is a public-spirited citizen and during the war period gave his unqualified support to all war measures. He is a member of the Piqua Golf Club, and belongs to the Knights of Columbus and the Knights of St. John, in addition to which he is prominent in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of which he was exalted ruler for a period of four years. He married Miss Alice Crowel, and they are consistent members of St. Boniface Catholic Church.

J. Forest Stephens, president and general manager of the American Fixture Company, of Piqua and Troy, Ohio, is one of the leading business men of the former city. He was born at Troy, Ohio, February 1, 1878, a son of Hugh M. and Rose (Mills) Stephens, the former a leading merchant and real estate operator at Troy. There were four children in the family: Mary E., the wife

of E. C. Thomas; Ada, the wife of Harry Henne, of Troy, and Homer S., sales manager for the Garford Company, of Elyria, Ohio, and J. Forest. J. Forest Stephens was educated in the public schools of Troy, after leaving which he secured a position with the Bell Telephone Company, where he advanced to the post of superintendent. He was then transferred to the Kansas City Home Telephone Company, of Kansas City, Mo., but returned to Troy, where he bought one-half interest in the C. C. Hobart Company, and subsequently, with Mr. Gibbs, acquired control of the concern. In 1913 a store was established at Piqua, and since that time the American Fixture Company has continued to grow in size and importance until it is now one of the leading concerns in its line at Piqua and Troy. Mr. Stephens occupies the position of president and general manager, while B. F. Gibbs is secretary and treasurer. All manner of electrical work is done, the company is capable of handling any kind of an electrical contract, appliances of all kinds are sold, and the concern makes a specialty of designing fixtures. The superior workmanship and efficiency in handling contracts which have always been features of this business have been in large measure the reason for its success, combined with the business capacity, progressive ideas and native energy of the directing heads. Mr. Stephens is a member of the Piqua Club, the Piqua Rotary Club and the Piqua Golf Club, and also holds membership in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He was a generous supporter of all war measures during the war, and likewise has been a helpful factor in securing the success of beneficial movements in his home city. Mr. Stephens married Pearl L., daughter of Milton Dilts, present member of the board of commissioners of Miami county, and they are the parents of one son, Robert.

Thomas Melville Wright, Doctor of Medicine. During a period of forty-four years, Dr. Thomas Melville Wright has been engaged in the practise of medicine and surgery at Troy and in this long and faithful service has given the best years, abilities and energies of his life. He was born in Boone county, Indiana, October 5, 1848, a son of James Wesley and Nancy (Fugat) Wright, and had one brother and one sister to grow to maturity: Rev. Joseph Monroe, a minister of the Presbyterian church, who died in 1912, and Sarah Ann, who died in Kansas, in 1908, as the wife of Jacob Cook, formerly an Illinois farmer. Thomas Melville Wright attended the public schools and the National Normal School, at Lebanon, Ohio, and received his medical training at the Louisville Medical College, Louisville, Ky. Graduated July 1, 1876, he at once began practice at Troy, where he opened an office on Walnut street, and here he has continued to follow his profession to the present time, having gained a large and lucrative practice and a firmly established position among the leading practitioners of the city. Doctor Wright married Angeline Mendenhall, of West Milton, Ohio, daughter of Thaddeus and Eliza Mendenhall, and to this union there were born two children: James Wesley, who died in infancy, and Thomas Melville, Jr. The



DR. THOMAS M. WRIGHT

latter volunteered for service during the Spanish-American war and saw active service in Porto Rico. He was a practicing physician of Troy, being a graduate of Indiana State University and the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of Baltimore, Md., and his death, which occurred December 29, 1915, removed from the city one of its brilliant members of the profession. Dr. Thomas M. Wright, the elder, married for his second wife, Alice, daughter of B. F. and Priscilla Albaugh, of Covington, Ohio, and to this union there were born two children: Lucile, who died in infancy, and Angeline B., the wife of Quinn B. Mitchell, of Alcony, Ohio. Doctor Wright is a member of the state, county and national medical bodies, and surgeon at Troy for the Dayton & Troy railroad and the Big Four railroad. He continued to be a close student of his profession, to which he has devoted his entire attention throughout his life, although he is not indifferent to the pleasures of companionship with his fellows and is a popular and esteemed member of the Masonic fraternity, having attained the York Rite degrees.

W. N. Stockstill. Since its establishment in Miami county many years ago, the Stockstill family has sustained the practical interest of the community and has manipulated with equal courage and ability the implements of the land-tiller and the weapons of the soldier. A worthy representative of this family is found in W. N. Stockstill, a prosperous agriculturist of Bethel township, who was born in this township, a son of J. P. and Jennie (Varner) Stockstill. One of Mr. Stockstill's sisters, Mrs. Bessie (Stockstill) Key, had two sons who fought as soldiers during the World war: Fred, who belonged to the engineers, and Otis, who was with the United States Marines, both graduates of the University of Tennessee. J. P. Stockstill was one of eleven children born to Elias and Elizabeth (Shroyer) Stockstill, and of these children seven sons fought as soldiers of the Union during the Civil war: Thomas, Ervin, Frank, who was wounded in action; Wilson, Walker, David and J. P. J. P. Stockstill passed his life as a farmer and was well and favorably known in Miami county, being the owner of a valuable property in Bethel township. On this farm W. N. Stockstill was reared and received his training in his life vocation, his education being acquired in the public schools. He has always devoted his energies to farming and the raising of stock and his labors have been rewarded by well-merited success. He married Miss Ethel Erwin and they are the parents of five children: Ruth, Helen, Lowell, Miriam and Howard.

Augustus G. Stouder. In reviewing the attainments of any community, it is entirely proper to divert to the comparatively few persons who have been primarily responsible for these attainments. If a city is noted as a manufacturing center, there must be, of course, a number of positive personal forces who have made an industrial pre-eminence possible. The demands on the industrial element in the Miami valley, during the recent war, demonstrated fully that not only was the great Miami valley prepared to eclipse

all other areas in the country in volume of manufactured goods, but in diversity of manufacturing as well. So, it is quite natural to inquire as to the great personal forces that have made this tremendous manufacturing life of the Miami valley possible. In Troy, as elsewhere, we not only find this diversity of manufactured products, but well ordered industrial system that insures the utmost volume of its products. In this instance we will divert to one who has contributed in the greatest possible measure to the life of Troy, and few others, if any, have done more to develop and maintain the reputation of Troy as one of the best manufacturing cities in the Miami valley. Pre-eminently, a self-made man, Augustus G. Stouder came through the school of hard knocks and like many of the great industrial leaders of the country, he has achieved without ostentation, content with building a solid and substantial memorial as is best expressed in the industries with which he has identified himself. Augustus Stouder was launched into actual life at an early age and soon learned the value, as well as the necessity, of self-reliance. He attended school in various places, Indiana, Iowa and Ohio, and during young manhood engaged in various occupations and business enterprises. At Vandalia, Ohio, he met the person who had secured the patents on the products which formed the original products of the Troy Carriage Sunshade Co. The patentee was a minister who was desirous of disposing of his invention, and Stouder possessed of but a small amount of capital agreed to buy the rights on this invention. He removed the industry to Troy and established the Troy Carriage Sunshade Co., Mr. H. F. Douglass and Mr. E. E. Edgar later becoming associated with him in this enterprise. The expansion of this concern from that time has been indeed wonderful. It gradually developed into one of the foremost manufacturing concerns in this part of the country, and no little credit is due Mr. Stouder for its splendid success. (For a full account of the history of this concern, the reader is referred to the General History section of this work, entitled Troy Industries.) Mr. Stouder is a stockholder and director in the sunshade company, and with Mr. E. E. Edgar and others, he purchased the Hobart Manufacturing Company, a concern that was then occupying very modest quarters in the neighborhood of the sunshade company. This concern was founded by C. C. Hobart and was largely devoted to the manufacture of motors and dynamos. Under the direction of Mr. Stouder, Mr. Edgar and others the success of this concern has been wonderful indeed. New lines were added including electrically driven food choppers, coffee mills and other devices of a similar nature. The demand for these products has been world wide and today the Hobart Company is considered the leader in these lines. All battleships of the United States navy and other navies are equipped with Hobart devices and to meet this demand, new additions have been erected from year to year until it has reached very great physical proportions. (We refer the reader to the industrial section of this work, entitled Troy Industries, for a more detailed account of the Hobart Manufactur-

ing Company.) The above two concerns are certainly a wonderful testimonial to the men who have made them possible. It might be said that these two concerns are the keystones of the business life of Troy, employing as they do, hundreds of highly paid workmen. Mr. Stouder has found time, of more recent years, to relax somewhat from the exacting ardor of manufacturing life. He spends some time in travel and is very much interested in a farming project of some 7,000 acres in Alberta, Can. This tract of land was purchased by Mr. Stouder and his associates and is cultivated in wheat. Mr. Stouder is also a director of the Troy National Bank and active in the general business life of Troy. It is needless to say, perhaps, that Mr. Stouder was responsive to all local war movements and has found time to assist many philanthropies, and is at all times devoted to the best interests of this section of Miami valley.

Glenn C. Strock. The contribution of Glenn C. Strock to the business prestige of Troy is a well-conducted men's furnishing store, which he operates with his partner under the firm style of Strock & Landrey. Mr. Strock, who is one of the enterprising business men of his city, was born in Clark county, Ohio, May 9, 1881, a son of Addison M. and Rosetta (Wrigley) Strock. He was the third of five children, the others being: Lillian, Minnie, Nellie and Anna. Educated at Troy, after leaving school he centered his attention and activities in the clothing business, with which he was identified until February 1, 1907, when he formed a partnership with John W. Landrey in founding the firm of Strock & Landrey. Since that time they have conducted a men's furnishing goods store which has won its way to public favor and patronage and which now does a large annual volume of business. Mr. Strock married Elizabeth, daughter of C. B. Rice, of Troy, and to this union there have been born three children: Robert LeRoy, and two who died in infancy. Mr. Strock is a popular member of the Knights of Pythias and the Rotary and Troy clubs. He was very active in the Liberty Loan, war chest and Red Cross movements during the period of the great war.

Charles A. Studebaker, who is numbered among the progressive and substantial agriculturists of Miami county, is the owner of a valuable and highly-improved property lying in Bethel township. Mr. Studebaker was born in this township, November 29, 1872, a son of Henry and Katherine (Senseman) Studebaker, and on both sides belongs to families which have been favorably known in Miami county for many years. He is one of a family of six children born to his parents, of whom five children are living. Mr. Studebaker received his education in the Bethel township district school and was reared on the home farm. He had no inclination for any other vocation than that of farming, which he has followed throughout his career, and at this time is the operator of a tract of 211 acres, on which are located modern buildings, including a comfortable and commodious home, the other improvements being proportionately up-to-date. The management and operation of a farm of this size naturally entails a great deal of work and attention,

but Mr. Studebaker has found time to take an active and helpful part in civic affairs. A staunch friend of education, he was president of the board of education for two years and was one of the pioneers in the fight for a centralized school building in Bethel township. With other intelligent and public-spirited men he succeeded in gaining this object, and the centralized school building in Bethel township is now considered one of the best schools in Miami county. Mr. Studebaker also served efficiently as assessor for one and one-half years. During the war period he was particularly active, serving on committees in the West Charlestown school district and contributing liberally to the various movements. Mr. Studebaker married, December 25, 1899, Louisa, daughter of George and Sarah Alice (Boor) Hershberger, of Loysburg, Pa., and to this union there have been born six children: Meriam Faith, Clara Naomi, David Emmert, Josephine Helen, Robert Henry and Geneva Rose.

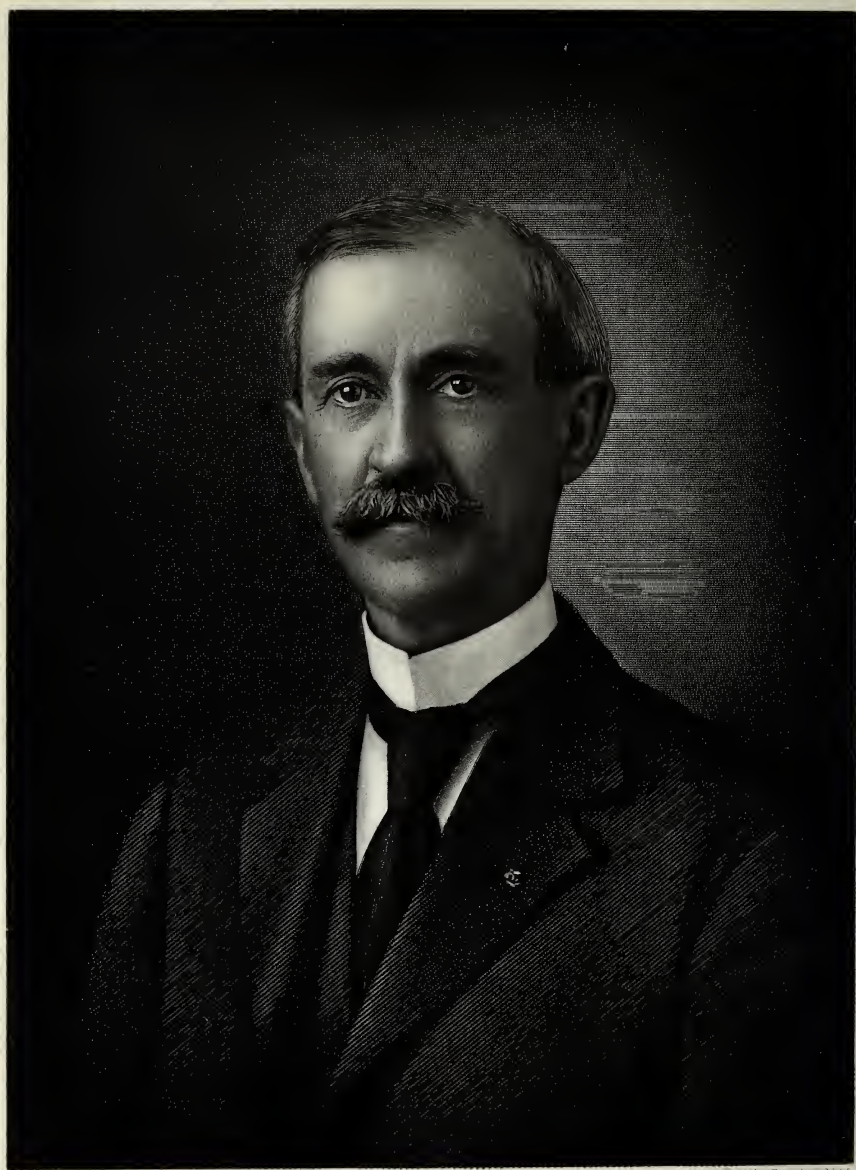
Eugene Clifford Stratton, manager of the Troy Milk & Butter Company, was born in Lost Creek township, Miami county, Ohio, December 25, 1873, a son of John Riley and Jane Ann (Walker) Stratton. John R. Stratton was a progressive agriculturist of Miami county, and to him and his wife were born: Eugene Clifford, the subject of this review; Curtis Walker, operating a large ranch in western Montana; Susan Viola, a telephone operator. Eugene C. Stratton received his preliminary education in the country schools of this locality, but desiring a higher education, took two courses of instruction at the normal university at Ada, Ohio. After leaving school, he worked on his father's farm until he became of age, and then, having a preference for the school room, he taught school in Staunton township for two years. At that time he took up the management of the twenty-eight farms of the Hainer estate, in which position he continued for twenty-one years during which time he became known as one of the most progressive and far-seeing men of the county. In June, 1919, he resigned from this position to enter business for himself, and is now manager and majority stock holder of the Troy Milk & Butter Company, one of the substantial enterprises of the community. In addition to his interests in this concern, Mr. Stratton operates four fine farms, and serves as a director in the First National Bank, of Troy, the Troy Grain & Supply Company, the Troy Masonic Temple Company, the Ohio Association of Creamery Managers and Owners, the Miami County Farm Bureau, in all of which his advice is eagerly sought by his associates. Mr. Stratton's first wife was Alma Pearl, daughter of William Guen, of Miami county, and to this union were born: Eugene, deceased; Riley and Ruth, attending high school; Roy, deceased; Harvey, at school; and Robert, an infant. For his second wife Mr. Stratton married Nina, daughter of Thomas Dalzell, a resident of Troy. Fraternally Mr. Stratton belongs to the Masonic order, and in the recent war was a generous contributor to all Government war drives. He is a Republican and served two years as infirmary director. He is a member of the Christian church.

J. F. Studer, a leading merchant tailor and dealer in men's furnishings at Tippecanoe City, has been engaged in business here only since 1915, but during this comparatively short period has firmly established himself in public confidence and esteem. He was born at New Lexington, Perry county, Ohio, February 28, 1875, a son of Joseph and Martha (Snyder) Studer, his father having been a life-long contractor and builder and a man highly thought of in the several communities in which he resided and carried on business. There were ten children in the family, of whom six are living. J. F. Studer was educated in the public schools of Perry county, and as a youth followed the old-fashioned and practical custom of apprenticing himself to a master workman in order to learn a trade, that of tailor. He served as an apprentice for about eighteen months, following which he became a journeyman and worked for five years as a coat-maker. Feeling ready to embark in business on his own account, he opened an establishment at Forest, Ohio, where he sold ready-made clothing and also was engaged as a merchant tailor for about ten years. During this time he became highly esteemed in his locality and served as mayor of Forest for about six years. In 1912 Mr. Studer's health failed and he went to Florida, where he remained three years. January 1, 1915, he returned to Ohio and located at Tippecanoe City, where he embarked in business as a merchant tailor and dealer in men's furnishings. He has since continued in these lines, and through good workmanship, sound business ability and unfailing courtesy, has won his way to a place among the substantial men of his city. He carries a well-chosen line of suitings, in addition to which he has a full stock of modern haberdashery which is kept fully abreast of the fashions. His patrons include some of the best-dressed men of Tippecanoe City, who have learned to have faith in Mr. Studer's good judgment and have found his goods correct, in good taste and reliable. Mr. Studer married Lizzie, daughter of Dr. W. A. Swimley, a well-known practicing physician and surgeon of Forest, Ohio, and to this union there has been born one daughter, Ruth, who is now living at the home of her grandparents at Winchester, Va. Mr. Studer belongs to the Knights of Pythias, at Forest; the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, at Kenton, Ohio, and the Triangle Club, of Tippecanoe City. Worthy civic measures have always found in him a strong supporter, and during the war period the war movements benefited materially by his liberal contributions.

Frank W. Suerdieck. One of the recent acquisitions of the commercial life of Tippecanoe City is Frank W. Suerdieck, junior member of the grocery firm of Hand & Suerdieck. While a great part of the career of this successful young business man has been passed elsewhere, his success has been gained at his native place, for he was born at Tippecanoe City, March 3, 1892, a son of William J. and Katherine (Bowmester) Suerdieck. His father, who was a harness maker by trade, followed that vocation for many years, and in the evening of life, having accumulated a competence,

went into comfortable and honorable retirement. There were five children in the family: Alma, deceased; Agnes, Katherine, Frank W. and Carl. Frank W. Suerdieck was educated in the public schools of Tippecanoe City, following which he pursued a course at Jacobs Business College, Dayton. His first employment was with the Dayton & Troy Electric Railway Company, in the capacity of cashier of the freight department, a position which he held for four and one-half years. Following this, he took over the agency at Troy for three years, and for a like period served as bookkeeper for the Troy Ice Company. April 15, 1920, Mr. Suerdieck returned to his native Tippecanoe City and bought a half interest in the grocery business which had been established some years before by P. J. Hand, the concern at that time adopting the present business style of Hand & Suerdieck. This business has grown steadily and bids fair to develop into prominent proportions under the partners' capable management. Mr. Suerdieck, while a newcomer in the business, has had varied experiences and is thorough and practical in his methods, aims and ambitions. He is likewise energetic and enterprising and possessed of unique ideas, and is putting the whole of his likeable personality and indefatigable industry into the advancement of the firm's interests. He is a member of the council of the Knights of Columbus, in which he has numerous friends, as he has also in business circles. His interest in civic affairs thus far has been that only of a good citizen, but he has supported worthy movements and during the war period contributed generously of his means to the furtherance of the enterprises made necessary by war's insatiable demands. Mr. Suerdieck was united in marriage with Emma M., daughter of John and Katherine Studer, of Dayton, Ohio, and to this union there have come two children: Loraine, who was born in 1915; and Vera, born in 1918.

H. K. Wood, president of the Wood Shovel & Tool Company and one of the leading factories in business and civic affairs of Piqua, was born in 1847, in Miami county, a son of William W. Wood. His father was born at Hollis, N. H., and was a representative of a family that came to New England from Amesbury England, in 1638. William W. Wood became one of the pioneer manufacturers of Miami county and as such brought the first car of coal to Piqua. He was prominent in all of the early public affairs of the county and was the first president of the board of education. He took upon himself many of the early responsibilities which brought subsequent good to his fellow-citizens. In 1850 he made the overland trip to California by ox-team, returning in 1852 by way of Nicaragua, and for a long period thereafter controlled the cooperage business in this section. For thirty-one years, with his son, he was engaged in the linseed oil business. Mr. Wood married Caroline Kirk, who was born in Ohio, a daughter of William Kirk, and they had four children, of whom two lived to maturity: H. K., and William Albert, the latter of whom was engaged for many years in the wholesale tobacco business at St. Louis



Eng'rs, Campbell N.Y.

H. K. Wood



FRANCES WILSON WOOD

and died in California, in September, 1881. The death of William W. Wood occurred in 1905 at the advanced age of eighty-eight years, his birth having occurred in 1817. On both sides he had come from Revolutionary ancestry. H. K. Wood received practical educational opportunities in his youth and September 6, 1873, was united in marriage with Frances Adelaide, daughter of Judge William Martin Wilson, a very prominent man. Her mother was a daughter of Major James Maxwell Dorsey, the first treasurer of Miami University. Mr. and Mrs. Wood have one son, W. W. Wood III, who is vice-president and treasurer of the Wood Shovel & Tool Company. H. K. Wood is a member of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church in which he has served as steward. In the early history of the Young Men's Christian Association he was its president, and later was chairman of the building committee when the present structure was erected. For eighteen years he was president and general manager of the Piqua Electric Company and at this time is president and a member of the board of directors of the Piqua National Bank. He has served on numerous civic boards and has belonged to numerous commissions for the general welfare. He is a Scottish Rite Mason and a member of the Piqua Club and the Sons of the American Revolution. He is director in the Third Savings & Loan Company, and belongs to the Dayton City Club.

Sherman D. Syler. Among the enterprising and progressive business men of Piqua, one who is widely known in realty circles is Sherman D. Syler. Mr. Syler is a product of the agricultural regions of Miami county, having been born on a farm in Concord township, a son of Samuel and Harriet (Stahl) Syler. He attended the public schools of Troy, and on coming to Piqua entered the employment of the Orr Felt & Blanket Company. While working with this concern, he became interested in the real estate business, and by 1904 his connection therewith had attained such importance that he decided to give his entire attention thereto. He accordingly founded the Syler Realty Company, which has since developed into one of the leading concerns of its kind in the city. In addition, Mr. Syler is deputy tax collector for Piqua, Spring Creek township and Washington township. He married Bessie, daughter of J. H. Knouff, a well-known physician of Piqua, and they have one daughter, Mary, who graduated from Piqua High School, 1920. Mr. Syler is an active worker and member of the Young Men's Christian Association, and is affiliated with the local lodge of the Masonic order. The family belong to the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church.

George Allenbaugh. The entire career of George Allenbaugh, one of the progressive and public-spirited residents of Washington township, has been devoted to farming, a field of effort in which he has met with well-deserved success. Mr. Allenbaugh was born in Shelby county, Ohio, in July, 1864, a son of George and Katherine Allenbaugh. His parents were farming people who passed the greater part of their lives in Shelby county, where they owned

valuable land and were held in high esteem because of their many sterling qualities of character. George Allenbaugh the younger passed his school days in his native county, where he acquired a district school education, and was reared on the home farm. His entire training having been along the line of agriculture, it was but natural that he should adopt this vocation upon acquiring years of maturity, and to the tilling of the soil he has subsequently devoted himself. In the fall of 1915, after gradually working his way up the ladder of agricultural attainment, he purchased his present farm from M. Hennessey, of Piqua. This is a property consisting of 110 acres, on which Mr. Allenbaugh has made numerous improvements, including an attractive and commodious home, farm structures of substantial and good appearance and the latest inventions in the way of equipment and machinery. He is progressive in his ideas and practical in his aims and a proper combination of conservatism and forceful initiative has assisted him to attain a position of independence and recognized importance in his community. Mr. Allenbaugh married Miss Emma Regula, of Shelby county, and to this union there has come one son, Raymond, who is assisting his father in the work of the farm. During times of peace, Mr. Allenbaugh has supported worthy civic movements and in the days of the World war he was a liberal contributor to the movements made necessary by the exigencies of the situation. Industrious, capable, sober and reliable, he merits the confidence in which he is held by his fellow-citizens.

Raymond L. Anewald. A representative of the young and energetic class of agriculturists recruited from other occupations in Miami county, Raymond L. Anewald is making a success of his farming enterprises in Newton township, and at present is the renter of one hundred acres of productive and well-improved land. Mr. Anewald was born at Dayton, Ohio, June 20, 1885, a son of Thomas Monroe and Ella (Lauver) Anewald. His father, a native of Pennsylvania, came to Ohio in young manhood and during his active career followed the vocation of veterinary surgeon, in which he became widely known. For some years he pursued his calling at Dayton, where he maintained an office and hospital. In his later years he retired. He and his wife were the parents of three children: Raymond L.; Clarence, superintendent of the Willard Storage Battery Company, Dayton; and Wilbur, who conducts a Willard Service Station, at Troy. Raymond L. Anewald was educated in the public schools, and in his youth followed various vocations. For eight or nine years he furnished Bradford with its ice and coal supply, a business in which he was successful and prosperous, but in 1909 disposed of his holdings and turned his attention to farming, a vocation in which he has since been engaged. Since starting the cultivation of the soil, Mr. Anewald has rented one hundred acres of highly productive farming land, on which there is a set of good buildings and improvements of a modern character. He is a student of his vocation, to which he has also brought enthusiasm and industry that are bound to bring him success. The prop-

erty is attractive and its improvements are in good repair, evidences of good management. Mr. Anewald was united in marriage with Minnie, daughter of Clinton Whitmer, of Covington, and to this union there have been born two children: Marie and Carl, who are attending school. The comfortable family home is near Pleasant Hill, a community in which Mr. and Mrs. Anewald have numerous friends and well-wishers.

James Newton Arendall. The thriving little community of Sugar Grove, in the northwestern part of Miami county, has as one of its chief business industries a flour mill and grain elevator, conducted by the firm of Arendall & Kindell. James Newton Arendall, of this firm, has been a miller practically all of his life and his active connection with the business dates back to the time of his boyhood. He was born in Halifax county, Virginia, July 11, 1877, a son of John A. and Alice M. (Cole) Arendall. John A. Arendall was a practical miller, who followed his business in the east for many years, and under his tutelage the son familiarized himself with every detail of the business, in the meantime acquiring his literary training in the public schools. He remained a resident of Virginia, where the rest of his parents' eight children still reside, until 1901, in which year he came to Ohio. After being variously employed for two years, in 1903 he located permanently at Sugar Grove, where he formed a partnership with Mr. Kindell, as a miller and dealer in grain, and they now have a prosperous mill and elevator in Miami county and have built up a large and flourishing business. Mr. Arendall's standing in business circles is that of a man of integrity and high principles and as a citizen he has been public-spirited. During the war period he contributed cheerfully to every fund for worthy movements. Mr. Arendall married Nora, daughter of John Helmick, of Pleasant Hill, and to this union there have been born two sons: James Emerson, who met his death in a railroad accident at Sugar Grove in 1917, and John Raymond, who is attending school and is in the eighth grade.

John W. Bartel, one of the dependable citizens and successful agriculturists of Washington township, was born near Salina, Auglaize county, Ohio, in 1865, a son of Joseph Bartel. His father was a shoe merchant of Piqua for a number of years, but also carried on farming in Auglaize county, where John W. Bartel acquired his educational training in the public schools. He was reared to habits of industry and honesty and as a young man adopted for his life work the vocation of farming, to which he has applied his activities uninterruptedly throughout his career. From a small beginning he has worked his way to the possession of a fine farm of one hundred and fifteen acres, located in Washington township, Miami county, on which he has made his home for many years. He has placed this property under a high state of cultivation and has improved it by the erection of a splendid set of substantial buildings, as well as the installment of a number of up-to-date machines and implements, and in every way is looked upon as one of the progressive members of his calling in his locality. As a citizen he

has answered every worthy call, and during the World war period contributed liberally to the movements formulated to insure the success of the American Army. He has several connections of a civic and social nature, but does not seek preferment and is not a politician. Mr. Bartel was united in marriage with Miss Mary B. Morrin, whose sad death in May, 1918, was mourned by a wide circle of friends. Five children were born to this union, namely: Ruth E., Paul E., Grace R., Mary B., and Bertha Olive. Mr. Bartel is a Baptist while his children attend the Christian church.

Beckert Brothers. Among the substantial and reliable business houses of Piqua, one which has gained and held public confidence because of its straightforward business policy, is the firm of Beckert Brothers, dealers in coal and building supplies. This concern was started in 1912 in the same neighborhood as that in which it is now located, at Young street, South avenue and the railroad tracks, and its product includes coal, cement, lime, plaster, sewer pipe, building material, fire brick and clay. The senior member of the firm, Ferd A. Beckert, was born at Piqua, Ohio, June 9, 1881, a son of Philip and Appolina (Schneider) Beckert. The father was a shoemaker and he and his worthy wife were well respected people of their community, being residents of Piqua for many years. They had seven sons and four daughters: Ferd A., Edward F., Joseph, Reinhardt, Henry W., L. P., August J., supervisor of the Ohio School for the Deaf; Julia S., Anna S., Rose and Alma. Ferd A. Beckert was educated at St. Boniface Parochial School and the Piqua High School, following which he pursued a course in the Piqua Commercial College. He began his career as a newsboy and subsequently rose to the dignity of conducting a news agency, his initial experience in the coal industry coming as a clerk in the employ of the Border City Coal Company. Later he bought a half interest in the business of J. H. Corbley, who later sold his interest to John Gertner, who, in turn, was succeeded by Edward F. Beckert, the firm since having been known as Beckert Brothers. Ferd A. Beckert married Clara M., daughter of John and Elizabeth Humpert, and they are members of St. Boniface Catholic Church. Mr. Beckert is a director of the Piqua Chamber of Commerce, and is fraternally identified with the Knights of Columbus, the Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Knights of St. John. Edward F. Beckert was born at Piqua, March 26, 1887, and attended St. Boniface Parochial School, the Piqua High School and a commercial college. Like his brother, he sold newspapers on the streets as a boy, but after leaving school secured a position as bookkeeper for the Val Decker Packing Company. Later he became a partner with his brother in the coal business when he bought the interest of John Gertner. Mr. Beckert married Martha, daughter of Louis Herbert, and they have one child, Herbert, and are members of St. Boniface Catholic Church. Mr. Beckert is a member of the Piqua Chamber of Commerce and is fraternally affiliated with the Knights of St. John, the Knights of Columbus and the Fraternal Order of Eagles. During the war period the Beckert

brothers were active in all movements and assisted materially in raising funds for the Knights of Columbus for that order's overseas work. During the war period, also, the firm of Beckert Brothers furnished most of the coal for Piqua's industries, as well as the surrounding country, in addition to taking care of the local trade, and in view of the severe coal shortage at that time it was a very creditable achievement of the firm that Piqua and the community did not suffer from a coal shortage.

Levi Bowman. That kind of material which will be counted upon to maintain Miami county's agricultural prestige in the future, is represented in the person of Levi Bowman, who is now carrying on extensive farming and stockraising operations in Washington township. Mr. Bowman was born on a farm in Franklin county, Virginia, March 27, 1893, a son of Peter and Nancy C. (Fisher) Bowman. His father, a native of the Old Dominion state, was engaged in farming there until 1898, in which year he came to Ohio, bringing with him his family, and since then has been a resident of Miami county. He and his worthy wife are very highly esteemed in their community, and have been the parents of ten children, of whom nine survive: Rutherford Ira, David Lee, Levi, Willie, Esther May, Clara, Effie, Reva and Dorothy. Levi Bowman was but five years of age when he accompanied his parents to Miami county, and here his educational training was acquired in the public schools of Washington township. Reared as an agriculturist's son, he early decided to make the soil the medium through which to work out his personal success, and on the attainment of his majority started on a career of his own. Mr. Bowman married Elizabeth, a daughter of Martin Holfinger, a farmer of Miami county, and to this union there have been born two children: Wilma Edith, born July 31, 1917, and Raymond Eugene, born February 15, 1920. Following his marriage, Mr. Bowman rented the farm of his father-in-law, a tract of eighty acres, on which he is making a success of his work. He is alert, enterprising, intelligent and energetic, and the manner in which he is making the most of his opportunities augurs well for a promising future. While his farming operations have demanded the bulk of his attention, allowing him no time for participation in public affairs, he takes a public-spirited interest therein and always supports worthy movements. This was particularly true during the World war, when he was a liberal contributor to the various movements made necessary by the maintenance of that struggle.

Lewis Brinkman, who is included among the substantial and enterprising farmers and stock raisers of Newton township, where he has resided on his present farm for fourteen years, was born in this township in 1882, a son of William and Mary (Boehringer) Brinkman. The Brinkman family has long been an agricultural one in Miami county and Mr. Brinkman's parents spent their active lives here in the cultivation of the soil. Reared amid agricultural surroundings, Lewis Brinkman has devoted practically his entire

life to farming ventures. He secured his education in the rural schools and commenced farming in young manhood, and since 1906 has resided on a well-cultivated farm, upon which he has modern improvements and attractive buildings. Mr. Brinkman belongs to the progressive class of agriculturists and is ready to adopt new methods when they have been proven practicable. In local affairs he has always supported beneficial movements and during the war did a good citizen's part in helping the various drives. Mr. Brinkman married Verna, daughter of Emanuel Kindig, of Newberry township, and four children have been born to this union: Ralph, Glenna May, Milford and Arthur.

Bert Favorite, the progressive and enterprising proprietor of Willowbrook Farm, in Concord township, was born on the property on which he now carries on operations, and is a son of George and Sarah (Graham) Favorite. George Favorite was for many years a leading farmer of Miami county, his stock farm being recognized as one of the best in the state. He was accurately adjudged as being an authority on live stock, and his interest in and knowledge of this branch of farming did much to awaken the stock farmers of this vicinity to the importance of raising pure-blooded stock. Bert Favorite received his education in the public schools of Concord township, and under the tutelage of his father became an expert in the line of stock breeding. This he carried on upon an extensive scale at his country place, known as Willowbrook Farm, a large body of land, beautifully and conveniently situated, which he has made more valuable by the addition of numerous modern improvements. He married Nora, daughter of Enos Wilhelm, of Miami county, and they are the parents of one daughter, Thelma, and two sons: Leonard and Leo. During the World war, Mr. Favorite was especially active in all patriotic movements, giving generously of his means to the different drives and acting as a member of the five Liberty loan committees, the war chest committee, the Young Men's Christian Association committee and the Red Cross committee. While his principal attention has been given to his farming and stock raising interests, he has not neglected the duties of citizenship, and all worthy civic movements have his unqualified and valuable support. He is secretary and treasurer of the Miami County Farm Bureau.

W. F. Deeter, who is widely known in educational circles of Miami county, has been superintendent of rural schools in his locality for sixteen years, and at this time has charge of the district which includes Newton, Newberry and Washington townships. Mr. Deeter was born at Pleasant Hill, Miami county, January 30, 1863, a son of Samuel R. and Susan (Freshour) Deeter. He belongs to a family which has been prominently known in this county for many years and whose members have been engaged largely in agricultural pursuits, although they have also contributed to the ranks of professional and business men. The parents of Mr. Deeter have been identified with agricultural affairs and are known as people of sound worth and sterling character. They had ten



MR. AND MRS. BERT FAVORITE



WILLOWBROOK FARM—HOME OF BERT FAVORITE

children, of whom seven are still living. W. F. Deeter received a good, practical education in his youth, and as a young man was engaged for a time in teaching, although he subsequently turned his attention to agricultural matters. In 1904 he was made superintendent of schools in this locality, a position which he has held continuously ever since, and his district now includes the rural schools in Washington, Newberry and Newton townships. During his incumbency of this office he has been instrumental in bringing about many desirable changes and innovations and in raising the educational standard in his district to a high plane. He is a general favorite with teachers, pupils and parents and has worked faithfully and conscientiously toward the end of making the public schools efficient, practical and systematic. Mr. Deeter is a resident of the Bradford community of Newton township, where he is the owner and operator of eighty acres of valuable land, on which he carries on extensive operations as a general farmer, in addition to raising a good grade of cattle and hogs. His good citizenship has been evidenced in a number of ways, and during the World war period he was placed in charge of a number of workers in behalf of the various movements; in none of which did his district fail to make its full quota. Mr. Deeter married Emma, daughter of John and Hannah Fox, of Covington, Ohio, and to this union there have been born four children, of whom one died in infancy, the survivors being: Calla Lily, the wife of Warren Driver, a prosperous young agriculturist of Newberry township; Pearl, the wife of Willis Earl Branson, a successful farmer of the same township, and Clarence, who is office manager of the Young Men's Christian Association, at Cleveland.

Eli Flory. The life of Eli Flory has been identified with the agricultural interests of Miami county for many years. Brought to this county when still an infant, he grew up amid agricultural surroundings, imbibed the spirit of the true son of the soil, and in a long and honorable career has found contentment and success in the pursuits of the landsman. Mr. Flory, who is one of the substantial and progressive farmers of Newton township, was born in Montgomery county, Ohio, September 4, 1860, a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Broomball) Flory. His parents, originally farming people of Montgomery county, came to Miami county in 1862, and here rounded out their lives as farmers, impressing their neighbors with their good qualities, living within the laws of their community and rearing their six children to lives of industry and honesty. Eli Flory acquired his education by attendance at the district school in the vicinity of his father's farm in Newton township and as a young man began farming on his own account. As the years have passed his circumstances have bettered and he is now the owner of 110 acres of finely-improved land, located in Newton township, where his pleasant country home is situated near Ludlow Falls. He has good improvements and operates his land according to the most generally approved methods, his intelligence, good management and industry having combined to

bring him success and place him in a recognized position as one of the skilled agriculturists of his locality. During the World war period Mr. Flory was a generous contributor to all worthy causes, this being in line with his citizenship during times of peace. He has served his community efficiently as road supervisor for three years, and he and the members of his family belong to the Dunkard church. Mr. Flory married Maggie, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Stichter) Stichter, of Newton township, well-known and esteemed farming people. She died May 26, 1908. Her brother, W. K. Stichter, was a soldier of the Union during the Civil war, having been in the hundred-day service. To Mr. and Mrs. Flory there were born the following children: Frank E., who died February 25, 1918, leaving a widow and children who now live with Eli Flory on the home farm; Joseph Earl, who is engaged in agricultural operations on a property situated east of Pleasant Hill; Trude, who married I. W. Wackard, a farmer of Miami county, and Louise, who married Chester Zimmerman, a farmer of Newton township.

Hugh Giffin. Many of the leading agriculturists of Miami county are to be found residing on the farms on which their birth took place, their entire lives having been passed in the cultivation of the soil of these properties. In this class is found Hugh Giffin, a substantial and well-to-do farmer and stock raiser of Spring Creek township, who was born on his present farm in 1869, a son of Robert and Mary (Patterson) Giffin. Mr. Giffin's parents were farming people of this township, where they passed useful and honorable lives and were held in the highest esteem by those who knew them. They were the parents of three children: Hugh, Florence and Mrs. Mattie Himmelright. The education of Hugh Giffin was secured through attendance at the district schools of Spring Creek township, and as a youth he worked faithfully on the home farm. As the only son of his parents, at their death he received a goodly inheritance of the home property, and here he has continued to make his home. He has 120 acres under cultivation, raising the standard crops and breeding a good grade of cattle, and is respected for his integrity, industry and good citizenship, the latter being particularly expressed during the recent World war. Mr. Giffin has never married, but lives on the farm with his sister, Flo.

Frank B. Hamilton, ex-mayor of Piqua and one of that city's most distinguished and prominent citizens, was born at Urbana, Ohio, March 1, 1872, a son of Alanson and Nannie (Brown) Hamilton. Mr. Hamilton's boyhood environment was that of the farm, his education being acquired in the country schools, and much of his youth was passed in agricultural work. He also applied himself to work in factories and as a salesman, and after taking up his residence at Piqua clerked in a store. The Hamilton family has always been interested in public affairs, from the time that Israel Hamilton, a direct descendant of Revolutionary ancestors, and the grandfather of Frank B. Hamilton came to Ohio. Israel Hamilton was elected attorney general of the state of Ohio in 1856, and

secured a colonel's commission at the outbreak of the war between the states. While reviewing troops, he contracted an illness which eventuated in his death. Perhaps with such notable forbears, it was not unusual that Frank B. Hamilton should take more than an ordinary interest in public matters. After having participated in local politics for some years, in November, 1917, he was elected mayor of Piqua, the first man of his party to have achieved this distinction. He gave the city an excellent administration and retired from office with an excellent record. Mr. Hamilton married Pearl, daughter of Abraham and Susan Good, of Piqua, and they have one son, Stanley H., at this time assistant secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association at Treantum, Pa. Stanley H. Hamilton is a veteran of the great World war, having seen service on the front in France with an engineering corps.

H. W. Hoops. As the son of one of Miami county's early settlers and stanch upbuilders, H. W. Hoops has maintained the excellent reputation established by his father, as a representative of the best farming element of Newberry township. Mr. Hoops was born in this township, in 1882, a son of George and Anna (Hay) Hoops, who passed their active careers as farming people of this locality, where they had the respect and good will of all who knew them. There were three children in the family: H. W., Roy and Merle. H. W. Hoops attended the public schools of his native township and was reared on the home farm, and in his boyhood and youth wisely availed himself of the opportunities which came to him, a fact which has been borne out in his practical education and advanced views on agriculture. Applying the knowledge and experience which he had gained in his younger years upon starting out for himself, Mr. Hoops took up farming scientifically, and by the exercise of care and sound judgement in his undertakings has developed one of the valuable and attractive farms of Newberry township. While he has been principally concerned in his home and his farm, he has at all times, in both peace and war, discharged the duties of good citizenship, and has been a liberal supporter of all beneficial measures. Mr. Hoops married Dellmer, daughter of Henry and Emma (Fritz) Fulker, farming people of Miami county. Two brothers of Mrs. Hoops, Otto and Hobart Fulker, fought as soldiers of the United States Army during the recent World war. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hoops: Eileen, Imo, Vera and George Henry.

J. W. Hawn. Among the properties which have remained in the possession of the same families since the early records of white occupation in Concord township, one which belongs to one of the well-known and respected families of this locality is the Hawn farm, situated on Covington R. F. D. No. 3. The present owner of this land, J. W. Hawn, was born on this farm, April 8, 1866, a son of Elias G. and Cynthia A. (Nutter) Hawn. At an early date in the history of Miami county, the grandfather of J. W. Hawn made his way overland from a community farther to the east, and took up his residence in the wilderness of what is now Concord

township. His little log cabin home was built in a country in which the Indians were still to be found in great numbers, while wild animals were in abundance and their meat formed an important part of the daily fare. This sturdy pioneer passed through his period of privation, eventually cleared his property, developed a good farm, and died, highly respected and esteemed. Following him as owner of the land came his son, Elias G. Hawn, who devoted his entire life to agricultural pursuits, and who, like his father, was a man of industry and held the confidence and respect of his fellow-townsmen. He and his worthy wife were the parents of eight children, of whom five are still living. J. W. Hawn was educated in the public schools and has always resided on the home farm, where he is now the owner of a finely cultivated tract of 143 acres. This land he devotes to general farming and the raising of a good grade of stock, and in both departments has met with unqualified success, due to his industry, intelligence and good management. He has good improvements and an attractive home, and in every way is justly deserving of being accounted one of the representative men of his community, as a farmer, a man and a public-spirited citizen. In politics he is a Democrat, although he has not been an office seeker. Mr. Hawn's first wife was Sarah, daughter of Alfred A. Iddings, of Miami county. After her death he was united with Clara, daughter of Stephen Genslinger, also of Miami county. Mr. Hawn has been the father of the following children: Joseph Robert, who died in infancy; Dorothy, born in 1905; Ruth, born in 1907; Lewis, born in 1910, and Woodrow in 1913.

Reuben Moore, who well merits the title of prominent citizen and leading agriculturist of Staunton township, was born in this township, July 8, 1852, a son of Rufus E. and Lydia (Bennett) Moore. The Moore family was founded in America by Gresham Moore, the great-grandfather of Reuben Moore, who was born in Wales in 1752, his wife, Anna, being born in that country in 1758. Not long after their marriage they emigrated to this country and settled in New Jersey, where they spent the rest of their lives. In that state was born Lewis Moore, the grandfather of Reuben Moore, August 16, 1778, his wife, Susan, being born there in July, 1786. Lewis Moore and his two brothers served as soldiers during the War of 1812, while residents of Ohio. Rufus E. Moore, father of Reuben Moore, was born in Butler county, Ohio, March 13, 1807, and after his marriage went to Shelby county, where he made his home and farmed until 1840. In that year he came to Miami county, securing a buckskin deed for government land in Staunton township, a property which he cleared and improved and on which he spent the rest of his long and honorable career, his death occurring March 9, 1876. Mr. Moore married Lydia Bennett, who was born in November, 1815, and whose great-great-grandfather came to America with William Penn and opened copper mines on an island in the Susquehanna river. She died in April, 1885. Reuben Moore was educated in the public schools of Staunton township



MR. AND MRS. REUBEN MOORE

and was a farmer from young manhood. His farm of eighty acres is a well-improved property which is devoted to general farming, although it is also noted for its splendid orchards. March 23, 1876, Mr. Moore was united in marriage with Florence E., daughter of Cornelius and Elizabeth (Yeaste) Brandenburg, natives of Maryland, and to this union there were born the following children: Nettie and Mamie, who died in infancy; Cornelius Allen, born in 1880, who is identified with the Piqua Milling Company, of Piqua; Lewis E., born in 1882, a telegrapher residing in Indiana, who has four children; Frank, born in 1884, a machinist of Dayton, who has one daughter, Venus, born in 1908; and Charles H., born in 1886, engaged in farming with his father, who has three children, Elwood, born in 1910, Bonnie, born in 1914, and Thelma, born in 1920. Reuben Moore was long considered one of the ablest farmers and best-informed men on agricultural subjects in the county. He was president of the Miami Horticultural Society, and belonged to the Miami Grange. During the last two years of his life he rendered efficient service to his fellow-citizens and his community in the capacity of president of the board of education, and did much to maintain a high standard in the public schools. Fraternally, he affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, which he joined in 1895, and Mrs. Moore belongs to the Pythian Sisterhood. Mrs. Moore is assistant secretary of the Horticultural Society. Mr. Moore died September 17, 1920.

Ira John Holfinger. One of the old and honored families of Miami county is that which bears the name of Holfinger, the members of which have been identified with agricultural pursuits here for several generations. In Concord township a worthy representative of this family is found in the person of Ira John Holfinger, who is carrying on extensive and successful operations as a farmer and grower of live stock. Mr. Holfinger was born in Miami county, March 7, 1882, a son of John and Eliza (Musselman) Holfinger. His father was born October 23, 1853, in Washington township, this county, and passed his life as a tiller of the soil. When still a lad he assisted his father in clearing the timber from the home place, and later shared in the work of development and became one of the substantial men of his community, where he was held in high esteem and had many friends. He and his worthy wife were the parents of two children: Ira John, and Lulu, who married Henry Schlegel, a farmer of Miami county. Ira J. Holfinger secured his education in the public schools of Miami county and grew to manhood in Washington and Concord townships. When he reached years of maturity he embarked upon agricultural operations of his own, and at this time is the owner of a farm of 101 acres, which he has brought to a high state of development and upon which he has erected numerous substantial buildings, including his commodious, modern home, a large barn for his horses and other live stock and structures for the housing of his grain, vehicles, machinery and equipment. He is progressive in his methods and modern in his ideas, and his good management has

been combined with straightforward dealing in a way that has won the confidence of his associates. Mr. Holfinger is a citizen of loyalty and public spirit, and, as he has supported good civic movements, so he also gave his aid to war enterprises. Mr. Holfinger married Effie, daughter of R. F. and Rosanna (Brown) Wilson of Miami county, and to this union there have been born two sons: John, born in 1906, who is already engaged in helping his father on the home farm, and Richard, who was born in 1918.

Blaine Holopeter. A continuous resident of Miami county throughout his life, Blaine Holopeter is one of the substantial farmers who have given Newberry township such a high agricultural standing during recent years. Mr. Holopeter was born on the farm which he now owns and operates in Newberry township, and is a son of Charles and Anna (Reish) Holopeter, natives of this county. The parents of Mr. Holopeter passed their entire lives in this county, where they were known as reliable, honorable and God-fearing people, supporters of education and religion and eminently worthy members of their community. They were the parents of four children, who were given educational and other advantages and reared to lives of usefulness and honesty, the children being: Ollie, who became the wife of Ray Hawn, an agriculturist of Concord township, Miami county; Mary, the wife of Mr. Perkins, a resident of Miamisburg; Sarah, who is unmarried, and Blaine. The only son of his parents, Blaine Holopeter attended the district schools of his native locality and grew up on the home farm, where he assisted his father in the work of cultivation. He has always resided on this property, which now consists of 150 acres, and which under his careful management and industrious cultivation is producing handsome returns for the labor expended upon it. Mr. Holopeter has good buildings and modern improvements, and conducts himself in every way like a thorough, practical, skilled and scientific agriculturist. He does not allow outside matters to divert his mind from his agricultural work, save where the duties of good citizenship demand his co-operation and support, when he is ready to give of his time or his means or labor to assist some good movement. This was particularly true during the great World war, when he was a liberal supporter of all war activities. Mr. Holopeter married Hazel, daughter of Roland Shellabarger, a member of a well-known agricultural family of Miami county. Mrs. Holopeter's sad death occurred in February, 1919, at which time she left two small sons, Charles William, who was born in 1916; and James Roland, born in 1918.

Rollin C. Jay, a progressive agriculturist of Newton township and a member of the board of township trustees, was born in this township, in 1864, a son of Jonathan and Mary Ann (Rigle) Jay. He belongs to an agricultural family and his parents followed farming throughout their lives in Miami county, where they were held in high esteem. After securing a district school education, Rollin C. Jay started assisting his father on the home place and on reaching manhood began operations on his own account. He is

now the possessor of a well-cultivated and productive property, on which he has installed modern improvements and commodious buildings, including an attractive home in the Pleasant Hill community. He is intelligent and practical in his work and has contributed his share toward maintaining high agricultural standards in this locality. During the war period Mr. Jay was active in the Red Cross movement, taking part in the organization of the workers in his township and later canvassing for funds as chairman for Newton township. For several years he has been a member of the Newton township board of trustees, a position in which he has rendered efficient and conscientious service to his fellow-citizens. Mr. Jay married Maggie, daughter of Charles and Sophia (Trost) Zimmerman, whose brother, Charles Zimmerman, had a son, Clarence; who saw training service during the World war and was sent to France. Mr. and Mrs. Jay had four children: Forest, who is engaged in farming in Miami county; Opal, who became the wife of Dan Bashore; Lova, who became the wife of H. Lowry, and Statia, who became the wife of Forest Noel. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Jay married Rosa, daughter of Isaiah Pember-ton, a farmer of Union township, Miami county, and they have one child, Frieda. Dr. Walter Hayworth, who was with the United States Army during the troubles on the Mexican border, is a nephew of the present Mrs. Jay.

Cory Elbert Leapley. Although among the younger generation of agriculturists in Miami county, Cory Elbert Leapley has already demonstrated the possession of qualities which have taken him an appreciable distance along the road to success. This energetic and determined farmer of Elizabeth township was born in Lost Creek township, Miami county, October 26, 1894, a son of Walter and Edna (Smith) Leapley. His parents, farming people, have been life-long residents of Miami county, where their wholesome lives and good citizenship have served to place them high in the esteem and respect of their acquaintances. Mr. Leapley secured his education in the district school in Lost Creek township and the graded school at Troy, and after leaving the latter began farming with his father. In March, 1918, he came to Elizabeth township and settled on the farm which he now occupies and here he has made a number of improvements and has put his land under a high state of cultivation. A very progressive young man, understanding the principles of husbandry, he is combining determination with intelligence, and should succeed in his chosen vocation. During the war period he served as a member of the war saving stamps committee in his township and otherwise acquitted himself like a good citizen. Mr. Leapley was united in marriage with Flossie, daughter of Benjamin and Eva (Shipley) Baker, farming people of Miami county. Mr. and Mrs. Leapley have a daughter, Mildred Eileen, born December 16, 1920.

Harley F. Kennedy. Compared with the majority of others whose careers are sketched in this work, Harley F. Kennedy is a newcomer into the agricultural life of Miami county, but what he

has accomplished thus far in his career makes it evident that he is worthy of enumeration among those who are engaged in the agricultural development of this section. Mr. Kennedy has been a life-long resident of the county, and was born on his present farm in Elizabeth township, July 21, 1898, a son of McLain and Sarah (Davis) Kennedy. His parents passed the active portion of their careers as farming people here and are held in the highest esteem by those who know them. They have had four children: Harley F., Arthur, who is engaged in farming in Lost Creek township, Miami county; Lilly, who married Edward Cavanaugh, of Elizabeth township, and Iva, who married Dick Freeman, of Elizabeth township. Harley F. Kennedy was educated in the district school in the vicinity of his father's farm, and after some further preparation engaged in farming. At the age of twenty-two years he finds himself renting his father's farm of 123 acres, equipped with modern buildings and machinery, and stocked with a good grade of live stock. Mr. Kennedy is physically and morally a fine type of American manhood and his ambition and ability should carry him far on the road to success. He is public-spirited to a high degree, and during the recent war period was a liberal contributor to all movements. Mr. Kennedy married Ellen, daughter of Frank Vanderveer, a substantial agriculturist of Elizabeth township.

William J. Lewis. One of the important industries of Covington is that represented by the Covington Woolen Mills, the proprietor of which, William J. Lewis, is one of the leading and progressive business men of his city. Mr. Lewis was born at Covington, February 3, 1872, a son of Alfred J. and Barbara (Ruppert) Lewis. Alfred J. Lewis came to Covington from Richmond, Ind., in 1865 and at that time bought the woolen mills from Henry Finck. He made a success of his venture and built up a firmly-established and growing business, but at that time died, when still in the prime of life, in 1889, leaving the business to his sons, William J., and Charles Edward. The latter is now a resident of Dayton, where he is engaged in business. William J. Lewis was granted the advantages of a public school education, and was only seventeen years of age when his father died, his younger brother being fifteen. Upon the youthful and inexperienced shoulders of William J. Lewis was placed the burden of responsibility for the continuation of the milling business. While the youth had little training, he was possessed of ambition, determination and a goodly share of common sense and natural ability, and these he used to the fullest extent in carrying on the business. That he has succeeded is shown in the fact that today this is the leading business industry of Covington, made so by the able judgment and sterling management of its proprietor. A complete history of this enterprise will be found in the industrial section of this work, but it may be noted here that during the World war period the business was conducted one hundred per cent. on government work, making blankets for the United States Army. Mr. Lewis has a number of civic and social connections, as well as those of a business character, and is



MORRISON BOAL ORR

highly esteemed and respected in business circles, while his public spirit as a citizen has never been questioned. He married Susan, daughter of Joseph Grove, of Covington, and they are the parents of three children: Alfred J. and Ruth Marcel, who are attending the Covington High School, and James W., a student in the graded school.

Jesse T. Landis. Of the men who have contributed to the advancement and development of Miami county through participation in agricultural activities and their connection with public affairs, few are more favorably known than is Jesse T. Landis, a substantial farmer of Newton township and a member of the township board of trustees. Mr. Landis has been a resident of this community all his life, having been born on his father's farm in Newton township, April 1, 1885, a son of John and Lydia (Wilbaum) Landis. He is one of a family of twelve children, of whom two died in infancy, the other ten growing to maturity. The parents were farming people throughout their lives and were well-known and highly esteemed in their locality. Jesse T. Landis obtained his education in the country schools and from young manhood has been engaged in agricultural operations, at this time having sixty acres of valuable land in Newton township, on which he carries on general farming and stock raising. He is one of the influential Democrats of his locality, having been for three years treasurer of the party in Miami county, for two years deputy state supervisor of elections and formerly for ten years central state committeeman. He is at present a member of the board of trustees of Newton township, a position which he has held for four years, and in which he has rendered faithful and efficient service to his fellow-citizens. During the period of the World war he was placed in charge of a certain territory in all the loan drives, Red Cross, war chest, etc., and in each case was successful in putting his district "over the top." Mr. Landis married Alice, daughter of Fred Reed, of Newton township, and to this union there have been born five children: Herman LeRoy, Glenna Irene, Helen Grace, Lydia Ellen, and Orpha May, all residing at home.

Morrison Boal Orr, a director of the Orr Felt & Blanket Company at Piqua, and one of that city's energetic and progressive business men, was born at Piqua, March 11, 1894, a son of Aaron Morrison and Eliza VanBibber (Boal) Orr. The late A. Morrison Orr was one of Piqua's most successful business men. He was born September 7, 1856, in Darke county, Ohio, a son of Gen. W. P. Orr, and was educated there and at Piqua. His first business venture was in the grain and linseed oil line in partnership with a Mr. Leonard, but the name of the firm was later changed to the W. P. Orr Linseed Oil Company. This concern subsequently sold out to the American Linseed Oil Company, and when this change was effected Mr. Orr remained with the new concern as manager of the sales department, at Cincinnati. He severed his connection with that business in February, 1897, at which time he became interested in a paper mill and stove works, and in 1900 bought out

the F. Gray Felt & Blanket Company and founded the Orr Felt & Blanket Company, which has become one of Miami county's largest manufacturing concerns and a history of which will be found in the industrial part of this work. Mr. Orr was a devout member of the Presbyterian church, an Elk and a member of the Piqua Business Men's Club. In his death his community lost a capable, greatly respected and public-spirited man. Mr. Orr married Eliza Van Bibber Boal, a native of Kentucky, and they became the parents of two children: Martha Louise, the wife of W. R. Casparis of Columbus, and Morrison Boal. Morrison Boal Orr was educated in the Piqua public schools and after his graduation from high school, in 1912, pursued a course at Phillips Exeter Academy, Exeter, N. H. Graduated in 1914, he entered Yale University, as a student of Sheffield Scientific School, and was attending his studies there when the United States entered the World war. He enlisted in the navy at Newport, R. I., in April, 1917, and in June of the same year received his commission as ensign. Subsequently he served on board the United States Ship Chattanooga from June until December, when he was transferred to the United States Destroyer McDonough, serving thereon until August, 1918, and being then transferred to the United States Naval Railway Battery. He received his honorable discharge March 1, 1919, and returned to Piqua, where he became a director of the Orr Felt & Blanket Company. Mr. Orr is well thought of in business circles and is highly popular with all who know him. He holds membership in the Masons and Elks and has a number of civic and social connections of importance.

J. H. McCool, who is numbered among the practical energetic and progressive agriculturists of Newton township, is the renter of a valuable property in the vicinity of Covington, on which he is working out a worth-while and definitely-outlined success. He belongs to a family which has resided in this county for many years, and was born in Newberry township, December 30, 1883, a son of D. O., and Hannah (Lyvergia) McCool. His parents were farming people who worked industriously and lived honorably and thus won the confidence and respect of their associates. There were four children in the family. J. H. McCool received his education in the public school in the vicinity of the home farm in Newberry township, also attended at Covington, where he graduated, after which he became associated with his father. He remained with the elder man until after he had reached his majority, when he began farming on his own account and has been so engaged to the present. Several years ago Mr McCool came to Newton township and located on the property he now rents and operates, a tract of eighty acres. Here he has a good set of substantial buildings, modern improvements of all kinds and a good grade of cattle, and is carrying on general farming and stock raising operations. He has an excellent reputation in business circles, and his standing as a citizen rests upon his loyal and public-spirited support of worthy movements both in times of war and peace. He has several social

connections and is the center of an admiring circle of friends. Mr. McCool married Pearl, daughter of John Sease, of Pleasant Hill, Ohio, and six children have been born to this union, five living with their parents: John, Charles, Miriam, Everett, George, and Carolyn, who died when one day old.

Samuel McCurdy, one of the prosperous agriculturists of Concord township, and one who belongs to the self-made class of successful men, was born in Ireland, and is a son of Samuel and Eliza (Barr) McCurdy. He was about one year old when brought to the United States, his parents first settling at Allentown, Pa., and three years later removing to Troy, Ohio, the trip from Cincinnati to the latter point being made by canal boat. In the vicinity of Troy the parents purchased a farm of eighty acres, in Concord township, and there the parents passed the rest of their lives, the father dying in 1894, at the age of eighty-eight years, while the mother passed away when eighty years of age. There were ten children in the family, of whom eight are still living. Samuel McCurdy the younger acquired his education in the district schools of Concord township, and was reared to the pursuits of agriculture, in which he has always been engaged. Through industry and intelligent management of his affairs he has become one of the prosperous farmers of his township, where he is the owner of a highly-improved and very productive tract of 272 1-2 acres. On this property are to be found substantial buildings, notably several commodious barns, built by Mr. McCurdy himself. Mr. McCurdy married Susan, daughter of Robert Correy, she being a native of Concord township, born and reared on the present McCurdy farm. To this union there were born ten children: Charles, who died at the age of twenty-two years; Samuel, who is his father's associate in cultivating the home farm; Joseph H., also working with his father; Mary, who is unmarried and lives with her parents; Jennie, the wife of Bert Billingsly, a farmer of Miami county; Rosa, the wife of Fred Williams, also a farmer of this county; Bessie, unmarried, residing with her parents; William Roy, an engineer of Dayton; Walter T., who is employed at Chicago, and John, who met death at a railroad crossing when twenty-seven years of age. Two of these sons have seen service overseas during the great World war. William Roy McCurdy joined the United States Navy and served about two years. Walter T. McCurdy joined the aviation corps, was under fire in France, and after the signing of the armistice was sent to Coblenz, Germany. In the meantime, at home Joseph McCurdy was serving on various war committees, Samuel McCurdy and his son, Samuel, Jr., were also assisting through contributions and co-operation, and Mrs. McCurdy and her daughters were working loyally in behalf of the Red Cross.

John Patterson. Among the agriculturists of Miami county who have attained success through intelligent application of industry and modern methods, there are many who have passed their entire lives on the properties which they now occupy. In this class is found John Patterson, who was born on his present farm in

Washington township, a son of William and Mary (Crozier) Patterson. Mr. Patterson is one of the three living children of his parents, and received his education in the public schools. He was reared to agricultural pursuits and as a young man adopted the vocation of farming, which he has always followed as a resident and operator of the home farm. Mr. Patterson has good improvements, including a set of substantial buildings, and in his management of his property evidences the possession of marked ability and judgement. A well read man, he is fond of good literature and has a large and well-chosen library. During the war period he did a good citizen's part in supporting the various movements of the Government, and his public spirit has been evident in local civic affairs. He is unmarried.

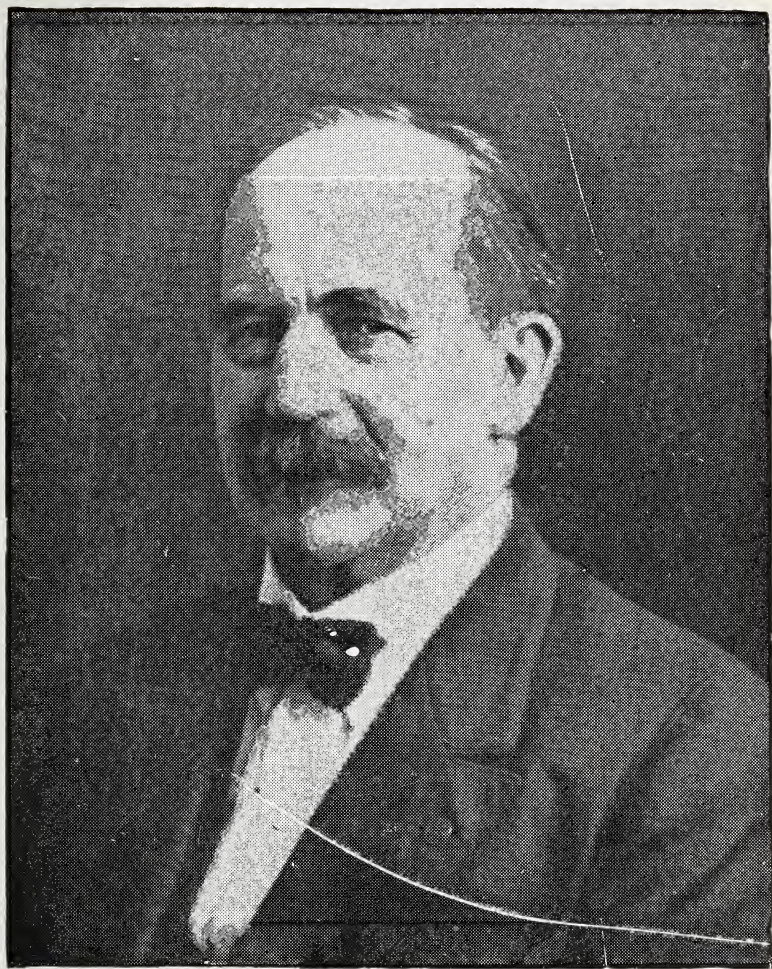
Charles F. Perkins, cashier of the Pleasant Hill Bank, located in the thriving little community of Pleasant Hill, Ohio, is one of the progressive young citizens of this community. He was born at Ghent, Ky., a son of G. W. and Martha Perkins, and received his education in the public schools of his native place, where he likewise obtained his introduction to the banking business. In 1907 Mr. Perkins came to Pleasant Hill, Ohio, at which time he was made cashier of the bank of Pleasant Hill, a position which he has since retained and in which he has contributed substantially to the success of his institution. Mr. Perkins has built up an excellent reputation as a man of ability, sound judgement and practical conservatism, and has the unqualified confidence of his associates and the patrons of the bank, the latter of whom frequently consult him as to matters of business importance. During the period of the World war, he was commendably active in the work of answering the call of the various war loans. A comparison of the figures showing the bank's quota, and what it subscribed, will give an idea of the services which he rendered at that time. In the first loan, the bank was given no quota, but subscribed \$5,500. In the second loan, the bank's quota was \$18,300, and subscribed \$28,400. In the third loan, the bank's quota was \$17,250, and the institution subscribed \$54,300. In the fourth loan, with a quota of \$43,200, it subscribed \$71,550; and in the fifth (Victory) loan, with a quota of \$32,450, it subscribed \$62,400. Mr. Perkins married Effie Roberts, of Ghent, Ky., and to this union there have come four children: Aileen, born in 1912; Charles A., born in 1915; Jack, born in 1918, and Richard Lee, born in 1920. Mr. Perkins' brother, R. L. Perkins, saw active service in France during the World war as a member of the United States Signal Corps.

Frank Pickanue. Among the progressive agriculturists of Miami county there are a number who are carrying on operations on the properties upon which they were born and where their entire lives have been passed. In this class is Frank Pickanue, of Newton township, who was born in the Pleasant Hill community, in 1882, a son of Jule and Christina (Bashore) Pickanue. His father followed farming for many years on this property and was a man highly respected for his industry and good citizenship, his death

causing his community the loss of a man who in various ways had contributed to its welfare and advancement. Mrs. Pickanue survives her husband and resides on the farm. Among their children, one son, James, was in the United States Army during the World war. He trained at Camp Sherman and saw service in France, taking part in several important engagements at the front. He returned home safely and is now engaged in railroading in Miami county. Frank Pickanue was educated in the rural schools and has always carried on farming. He is now carrying on operations on the home place for his mother and is accounted one of the agriculturists of modern tendencies and practical ideas. He has put the seventy-five acres under a good state of cultivation and his industry is being rewarded by satisfying success.

Jacob Reichman, whose farming operations in Newberry township are among the most successful carried on in that portion of the county, and who is a member of a family long and favorably known there, was born in Miami county, May 11, 1858, a son of John C. and Katherine (Gensley) Reichman. The parents of Mr. Reichman were well-known and highly respected farming people of Miami county, where they passed their entire lives. John C. Reichman enlisted for service in the Union army early in the war between the North and the South, being a private in the One Hundred and Tenth regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, a hard-fighting organization which saw much active service, and with which Mr. Reichman was connected for four years. At the close of his military service he resumed his farming operations, and was engaged therein until his death in 1890. By his marriage with Katherine Gensley, he was the father of four children: Con, who is a retired agriculturist living at Covington, Ohio; Barney, who is also retired after a career spent in agriculture and likewise lives at Covington; Julie, the wife of Samuel Bitner, a farmer of Newberry township, and Jacob. By a subsequent marriage, Mr. Reichman had one daughter, Mary, the widow of Henry Wilke, living at Covington. Jacob Reichman received his education in the public schools of Miami county, and as a youth assisted his father and brothers in the work of cultivating the home farm. He remained under the parental roof until ready to enter upon his independent career, and since then has accumulated 160 acres of good land in Newberry township, his comfortable home being located on Covington R. F. D. No. 4. He has other good buildings and modern improvements and is justly adjudged one of the progressive and enterprising agriculturists of his community. Mr. Reichman was united in marriage with Sarah J., daughter of Jacob Reesor, a farmer of Miami county, and to this union there have been born two children: Roscoe, who assists his father on the home farm, and Pearl C., the wife of Lewis Sarver, a farmer of this county. Mr. Reichman is one of the public-spirited men of his community, where he bears an excellent reputation for integrity and fair dealing, and during the war period he and his son were generous contributors to all war activities.

Frank M. Sterrett. Frank M. Sterrett, whose useful and prominent life has been spent in its entirety in the furtherance of the public good, was born in Pike township, Clark county, Ohio. Here he grew to manhood on the home farm, and was educated in the district schools, the Troy grammar school, and the Ohio Wesleyan University. At the age of eighteen, he enlisted in the Independent Batallion of Ohio Infantry, Company D, and was mustered out of Company I, One Hundred and Forty-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, August 30, 1864, after a year of service, during which time he had served as commissary sergeant, of the cavalry service, and was detailed to the heavy artillery in front of Washington, and then the engineer corps, and assisted in laying out Arlington Heights, Va. On account of disease contracted while in the service, under the advice of physicians, he traveled through England and Ireland during the year 1865. Upon his return to the United States, he taught school in Ohio and Indiana for three years, then read law for two years, following which he was a commercial traveler for eight years. Throughout his life, Mr. Sterrett was a loyal supporter of Republican policies, and served as chairman of the county senatorial and congressional committees, and was a member of the State Central Republican Committee from 1877 to 1883. He was appointed postmaster of Troy by Presidents Hayes and Arthur. He held the interests of Troy always at heart, and served as president of the Troy Water Works; was chairman of the committee securing the east and west railroad through the city in 1881; and was prominently connected with the building of the model county seat courthouse of Ohio, at Troy in 1882. In 1885, he resigned as postmaster, and moved to St. Louis, Mo. Here also, he was prominent in politics, and was candidate for congressman from the eleventh St. Louis district, In 1890, and the twelfth district in 1894. He was president of the Missouri Commission to the Omaha International Exposition, and Missouri won more diplomas and medals than any other three states combined. From 1894 to 1904, he engaged in the real estate business in St. Louis, and was secretary of the finance committee of the St. Louis World's Fair, from March, 1901, to July, 1901. He returned to Troy, Miami county, in 1904. Mr. Sterrett holds an exceptional GrandArmy record, having been post commander of various posts at different times, and was executive director of the Forty-first National Encampment held at Saratoga Springs, New York, 1906-7, and served in the same capacity at the Forty-third and Forty-fourth encampments held at Salt Lake City, and Atlantic City, respectively. He was adjutant general, 1900-1, under Ras-sieur, and was commander of the department of Missouri, 1903-4. He was a member of the executive committee of the National Council of Administration from 1895 to 1914, and is the present chairman of that committee. Mr. Sterrett's usefulness has entered many fields, and his career is one of which he may justly be proud. He was married September 19, 1872, to Miss Mabel Binkley, of Troy, Ohio.



FRANK M. STERRETT

John B. Reichman. One of the citizens of Washington township who has contributed to his community's development through industry in farming and progressiveness in citizenship is John B. Reichman, who is carrying on extensive farming operations on the old McCracken farm. Mr. Reichman is a native of Washington township, his parents having been Conrad and Rosa (Holfinger) Reichman. His parents belonged to the steady-going, God-fearing class, industrious and sober, and applied themselves to farming throughout their lives in Miami county, where they became property owners in Washington township and were held in high esteem. The youth and boyhood of John B. Reichman were passed in an agricultural atmosphere. He secured his education in the schools of the rural districts and his training was gained on his father's farm, it being all along the line of the vocation which was to become his life work. When he had reached man's estate he started farming on his own account, and was thus engaged at the time of his marriage to Bertha, daughter of Scott and Charity (Reigh) McCracken, farming people of this community. At the time of their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Reichman settled down to housekeeping on the old McCracken farm, where they have since carried on general farming and stockraising operations with much success. They now have a well-cultivated farm, a pleasant and commodious home, other good farm buildings and up-to-date equipment, and are included among the representative people of their community. They are the parents of one son, Luther. Mr. Reichman has always shown a good citizen's interest in public affairs and civic movements tending toward advancement have enlisted the benefit of his support. During the World war period he loyally contributed largely of his means to the various activities made necessary by that struggle. Mr. Reichman and his family attend the Christian church and in politics he is a Democrat.

Howard H. Rike is one of the industrious and reliable farmers of Newberry township, classed with the rising generation of agriculturists who are acknowledged to be as broad and scientific in their methods and as fruitful in results as the workers in any other branch of modern industry. He was born at Toledo, Ohio, May 13, 1881, a son of J. C. and Anna R. (Weber) Rike, and belongs to one of the oldest families of Newberry township, which was founded here at an early day by his great-grandfather, who came from Maryland and took up government land here, his farm being the first settled in this section. The son of the pioneer built a log cabin near the present site of the Rike home, as early as 1848. J. C. Rike was given good educational advantages and entered the profession of law, which he followed at Toledo for about forty years. During that period he was one of the prominent citizens of the big city, being a justice of the peace for some years, acting for a long period as president of the Toledo Board of Education, and for a time being superintendent of mail carriers at the postoffice. In 1908 he gave up his varied and extensive interests in the city and returned to the farm in Newberry township, where he met

an accidental death, August 21, 1919. He was a man of brilliant attainments and fine intellect and was greatly esteemed and respected by all who knew him in his several communities and his varied capacities. There were four children in the family: Grace, who is unmarried and lives with her brother, Howard H., on the home farm; Camilla, the wife of Ross Whitmer; Leslie, who was in training with an artillery division for nine months during the World war at Camps Taylor and Knox, and is now identified with the Good-year Rubber Company, at Akron, and Howard H. Howard H. Rike secured his education in the public schools of Toledo, following which he applied himself to the electrician's trade, and after carrying on that line of work for a time at Toledo, went to Detroit and became identified with the Edison Building Light Company, with which he was connected for fourteen years. Returning to the farm in 1917, he has since engaged in the pursuits of the soil and within the short space of three years has secured recognition as a progressive, industrious and capable agriculturist. Modern methods have always appealed to him and the prosperity reflected by his property indicates the good management of its owner. Mr. Rike is unmarried, his home being presided over by his sister Grace.

Frank H. Routson, who is successfully pursuing the vocation of a farmer and stock raiser in Newberry township, is the owner of seventy acres of well-cultivated and productive land and one of his community's highly respected citizens. He was born in Miami county, November 9, 1871, his parents being Josiah and Abbie (Swank) Routson, also natives of this county, who passed long and honorable careers here in the pursuits of agriculture and were greatly esteemed by those among whom their careers were spent. There were six children in the family, and of these three sons still survive: Frank H., of this notice; Wesley, who is the proprietor of a successful shoe business at Bradford, Ohio, and Calvin, who is living a retired life at Piqua. Frank H. Routson received his education in the public schools of Miami county and was reared to agricultural pursuits. He remained on the home farm until about the time that he attained his majority, and November 6, 1892, settled on his present farm in Newberry township. This consists of seventy acres of good land, which Mr. Routson has brought to a high state of productiveness, and on it has installed a number of attractive buildings, including his comfortable home located on Covington R. F. D. No. 2. In 1892 Mr. Routson was united in marriage with Elizabeth, daughter of William Stager, a Miami county farmer, and to this union there have been born five children: Emery E., who is engaged in farming on his own account a short distance west of the property owned and operated by his father; Manley, who saw fourteen months of service during the World war, as a motor truck driver in the Fifth Division, and is now a resident of Piqua, where he is identified with the Meteor Truck Works; Millard, who is employed by the Covington Lumber Company, at Covington, Ohio; Willard, who is engaged in farming with his father, and

Paul, the baby, who was born in 1917. Mr. Routson has always shown himself worthy of the esteem in which he is held as a citizen, and was as liberal a contributor to war movements as he has been a generous supporter of civic enterprises.

John C. Rudy. A skilled and progressive farmer, a citizen who has rendered excellent service to his community in offices of public trust, and a supporter of the institutions of education, religion and good citizenship, John C. Rudy is justly accounted one of the useful and reliable men of his locality. This highly esteemed resident of Newton township was born in this township, May 28, 1868, a son of Levi and Susan (Deeter) Rudy. His parents, farming people of Miami county for many years, were esteemed and respected for their dependable qualities and reared their five children to lives of industry and integrity. John C. Rudy was given the advantages of attendance at the district schools of Newton township, and grew up on the home farm, where he was taught the value of hard work and the principles of honesty and straightforward dealing. When he reached man's estate he entered upon a career of his own, starting in a small way and gradually developing his interests until he became, as at present, the owner of 172 acres of valuable land. This property Mr. Rudy has made one of the best in the township, erecting substantial and attractive buildings and installing good improvements. He is a general farmer and a raiser of a good grade of live stock, and in all departments of his work has achieved success. He has a pleasant and commodious home in the vicinity of Pleasant Hill, a community in which his friends are numerous and sincere. Mr. Rudy was a generous and frequent contributor to the various movements made necessary by the World war, and as a citizen has also supported worthy movements. He has likewise served his fellow-citizens capably in public office, having been road supervisor for a period of thirteen years, and at this time being for the second term a member of the board of trustees of Newton township. July 10, 1898, M. Rudy was united in marriage with Della, daughter of Samuel and Christiana Furlong, farming people of Miami county, and to this union there have been born three children: Ivy May and Elma Belle, who died in infancy, and Harold, who is associated with his father in the cultivation of the home farm.

S. J. Rudy, one of the highly esteemed self-made men of Covington, where he carries on an extensive grain business and operates two large elevators, was born on a farm in Miami county, April 18, 1868, a son of William and Mary (Shafer) Rudy. William Rudy was one of the extensive farmers of his part of Miami county, where he passed his life in the pursuits of the soil, and as an honorable man of business and an exemplary citizen held the respect and confidence of all with whom he came into contact. There were five children in the family: Maggie, the widow of Allen Martin, of Covington; Emma, the wife of Samuel Wellbaum, of that city; Ida, the wife of Rollen Cable, of Covington; Minnie, the wife of Harvey Wolf, of that place; and S. J. S. J. Rudy secured his educational

training in the country schools and began his career by working for his father on the home place, remaining under the parental roof and as the elder man's associate until he reached the age of twenty years. At that time he decided he was ready to enter upon independent operations and accordingly rented the farm of John Miller, located in his home community, and for ten years continued operations thereon. Eventually disposing of his holdings, he came to Covington and embarked in another line of endeavor, taking up the grain and elevator business, which he has followed ever since. Mr. Rudy started in this field of enterprise in 1898, with a modest capital, and had just gotten nicely started when he was given a set-back by the destruction of his elevator by fire. It was rather a severe blow, as his resources were not great, but he did not allow himself to become discouraged. On the contrary, he rallied all his forces and started on a larger scale, at his present location, where his operations have been crowned with marked success. Today, Mr. Rudy not only owns the elevator at Covington, but one as well at Bloomer, Ohio, which is operated by his son-in-law, Russell Helman, and owns several large farms, which are operated by renters in Miami county. Whatever may be his success, and it is not inconsiderable, it has been attained through the medium of his own efforts and by strictly legitimate dealing which has given him a substantial standing in the confidence of his associates and those with whom he has come into contact in a business way. Mr. Rudy married Dora M., daughter of Ezekiel Kendall, of Covington, and to this union there have been born eleven children, all living: William, who was in the United States service during the World war for eleven months at Camp Knox, Camp Taylor and Camp Stetson, Louisville, Ky., and now is connected with railroad work at Bradford, Ohio; James and Albert, operating the elevator at Covington, Ohio; Alvy, who is working for James and Albert; George, who is at home and the youngest of the family; Nellie, who married Russell Helman, associated with the elevator business at Bloomer; Ethel and Dora, who are unmarried and reside with their parents; and Alice and Olleta Fern, who are still attending school, and Susana, who is also attending school, and is a proficient violinist. While his career as a business man has been a decidedly busy one, entailing close attention to his interests, Mr. Rudy has always taken an active part in local affairs as a citizen and has aided good movements promising the advancement of the public welfare. For two years he belonged to the Covington City Council, where he gave a good account of his executive ability and worked constructively in behalf of his city and fellow-citizens. As an active member and liberal supporter of the United Brethren church, he took a very active part in the movement which resulted in the erection of the magnificent edifice of that denomination at Covington.

Samuel J. Schauer, who is numbered among the substantial and progressive agriculturists of Concord township, was born in this township, and is a son of John Schauer, a native of Pennsyl-

vania. John Schauer came to Miami county in early married life and settled in Concord township, where the balance of his life was passed in agricultural operations. He and his worthy wife, who was also a native of Pennsylvania, had three children: Hal, a resident of Troy; Clara; and Samuel J. Samuel J. Schauer received his education in the country school situated near his boyhood home in Concord township, and on reaching maturity adopted the vocation of farming for his life work. At the present time he is the owner of a flourishing farm of seventy-two acres, on which he is devoting himself to general farming and stock raising, his efforts having met with the success that his industry and good management have deserved. His property has been developed until it is as productive soil as can be found in Miami county, and in its operation Mr. Schauer makes intelligent use of the most modern machinery and appliances. In 1882 Mr. Schauer married Eva Kern, who was born in Concord township, and educated here, and to this union there were born two children: Lizzie and Gleno, both of whom are deceased. Mr. Schauer has no relatives who actually participated in the World war, but distinguished himself by his generosity in supporting the various Liberty Loan drives, and in the accumulation of the Miami County War Chest. Mrs. Schauer died about 1900. Mr. Schauer was again married February 22, 1912, to Rhoda Frey, daughter of Thomas and Lena (Kuntz) Frey, of Shelby county, Ohio, and to this union there were born two children: Hazel Irene and Dorothea Lucille.

Rolla Y. Sharp, of Troy, Ohio, was born in this city April 12, 1862, the son of Richard and Emily (Tullis) Sharp, the former of whom was born in Virginia, and the latter in Miami county, Ohio. Richard Sharp came to Ohio in young manhood, and being a wagon maker, located at Troy. When the Civil war broke out, he patriotically offered his services to the Union cause, and served with distinction as a lieutenant in the One Hundred and Forty-seventh regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. To him and his wife six children were born, three boys and three girls, all of whom are now deceased with the exception of Ada, who has been engaged in teaching for the past thirty-five years and is at present instructing at the Edwards School, and Rolla Y., the subject of this biography. Rolla Y. Sharp was educated in the Troy common schools, and when he left took up work with his father in the carriage shop at Troy. He continued in this occupation until the year 1910, when he was appointed chief of the fire department. He served his community well in this capacity for four years, and then withdrew. After two years, however, he was again called to give his services to the fire department, and was thus engaged for another year. At this time he was appointed deputy sheriff, a position which he retains at the present time, having complete charge of the jail at Troy. Mr. Sharp married Clara Kellog and the following children have been born to them: Ada, died when but seven years of age; Robert, attending Cincinnati University, and Richard, attending high school. Robert served in the armed

forces of the country during the World war, and saw five months' active service in France as a member of the coast artillery. Mr. Sharp is a popular member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and has the trust and confidence of his fellow townsmen, whom he so conscientiously serves.

Bert U. Shellhaas, whose identification with the farming interests of Miami county is that of a practical, intelligent and dependable farmer, was born in his home township of Newton, in 1882, a son of Michael and Charlotte (Ullery) Shellhaas. The parents were agricultural people who passed their entire lives in this county where they were the owners of a good Newton township farm and where they were held in the highest regard. Among their grand-children, William and Joseph Shellhaas were soldiers in the United States Army during the World war, both seeing overseas service. Bert U. Shellhaas secured his education in the district schools and was reared on the home farm. He has always devoted himself to farming and has made a gratifying success of his efforts, his property comparing favorably with others in the township and his success having been won on merit. He joined other loyal and patriotic citizens in supporting the various movements made necessary by the demands of war, and has also been a co-worker in the various enterprises that have made for civic advancement. Mr. Shellhaas married Martha, daughter of William and Rebecca Folkerth, farming people of Montgomery county. Mrs. Katherine (Folkerth) Good, a sister of Mrs. Shellhaas, had a son in the army during the World war. Mr. and Mrs. Shellhaas have three children: Mark Allen, Mahlon F., and Martha Jane. They belong to the church of the Brethren. Politically he is a Republican.

John H. Smith. Among the agriculturists of Miami county who have been identified long and prominently with the interests of this section and who through intelligent direction of their activities have contributed to the advancement and well-being of their community, one who is worthy of mention is John H. Smith, of Newton township. Mr. Smith was born in Montgomery county, Ohio, December 10, 1861, a son of Samuel and Katherine (Sharitt) Smith. There were four children in the family: Carrie, George, Perry and John H. John H. Smith was reared in an agricultural community, as his father was always an agriculturist and his education was acquired through attendance at the district schools. He remained at home for several years after attaining his majority, but in 1884 came to Miami county and began operations on his own account. For more than a third of a century he has been cultivating the soil in Newton township, and at the present time is the owner of fifty-three acres of good land, which he has brought to a high state of cultivation, devoting it to general farming and the raising of live stock. He has a good set of buildings, including a commodious modern home, and other improvements which reflect his progressive spirit and tendency toward up-to-date equipment and methods. His standing in the

community is that of a capable farmer, a reliable citizen and a man of sound integrity. During the war period he demonstrated his patriotism by his generous support of the various movements made necessary by the exigencies of that great struggle. Mr. Smith married Florence, daughter of Edward Whitman, of Montgomery county, and to this union there has been born one daughter, Lulu, the wife of Charles Holfinger, with one son, Harold, ten years old.

Robert Janvier Smith, one of the most able and brilliant lawyers ever connected with the Miami county bar was born in Troy, November 13, 1865. Here he grew to manhood, and upon his entry into the business world, spent two years in the employ of the Piqua National Bank, after which he was admitted to the bar. For several years, Mr. and Mrs. Smith lived in Texas, both in San Antonio and Mercedes, where he was rated high among the men of his profession. Upon his return to Piqua he entered the firm of Long & Bell, and since his work in that capacity, the firm of Long, Bell & Smith has been a power in the city. For a short time before his death, Mr. Smith successfully carried on an extensive practice by himself. He was married to Miss Harriet Jones, on September 17, 1889, and to this union were born two children, Mrs. Paul Murray, of Columbus, and Walter Smith, at present of Santiago, Chili. Robert Smith not only made a success of his life work, the practice of the law, but he was a man of unusual literary ability. He loved the best in literature, and filled his mind with the great thoughts of the ages. His keen judgment, brilliant wit, his unusual power as a story teller, made him a wonderful speaker. His attachment to his loved ones, his allegiance to home ties was a prominent characteristic of his nature. His love for his little grandson, Paul Murray, Jr., made the visits of the tiny boy a rare delight. Even during the days of pain, he asked frequently for the "Little Maj." as he tenderly called him. Mr. Smith's death occurred May 23, 1920, and his going away made a vacant place in Piqua that can not be filled. A sense of distinct loss was voiced everywhere, for when a man of winning personality, of mental ability, and of clean character passes, all must regret the loss, and all those who knew and loved him must grieve with a grief that can not easily be comforted.

Oliver H. Snowberger. Of the younger generation of agriculturists who continue to dwell amid the surroundings of their boyhood and with their newer energy and broader outlook are augmenting the labor of their sires upon landmark homesteads, mention is due Oliver H. Snowberger, of Newberry township, who was born on the farm upon which he is now carrying on operations, in 1873, a son of David R. and Lydia (Cassel) Snowberger. David R. Snowberger was born in Pennsylvania, from which state he enlisted for service in a volunteer infantry regiment during the Civil war. At the close of the struggle he returned to the Keystone state, but in 1869 came to Ohio and settled west of Bradford. Following his

marriage in that community he came to the property now owned and operated by his son, and here continued in agricultural operations during the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1907. He married Lydia, daughter of Michael and Mary Cassel, of Newberry township, who still survives him and resides with her son. They became the parents of four children: Andrew, Oliver H., Elmer and Mary C. Oliver H. Snowberger secured a public school education and has always been engaged in agricultural pursuits. Of recent years he has had entire charge of the farm, which he has brought to a high state of cultivation, and is accounted one of the progressive young agriculturists of his locality. He is a young man of practical ideas and pronounced general ability, and has faithfully discharged the duties of good citizenship in times of both peace and war. On November 2, 1920, Mr. Snowberger was married to Mrs. Oma Hall, of Piqua, Ohio. She was a daughter of Peter and Tlista (Long) Bailey. She was a widow with four children: Lewis, George, Mary and Maudia, who live with their mother. Mr. Snowberger is a wholesale dealer in sand and gravel. He has a large gravel pit on his farm, and pays more attention to that than farming.

Joseph M. Studebaker. During a period of forty-seven years, Joseph M. Studebaker has been carrying on extensive agricultural operations on his present farm in Elizabeth township, a tract of 195 acres of some of the most productive and fertile soil to be found in Miami county. This old and honored citizen of the Troy community was born on a farm in Bethel township, Miami county, June 28, 1849, a son of Jacob and Mary (Miller) Studebaker, and is the only survivor of three children born to his parents. Jacob and Mary Studebaker were early settlers of Miami county, where they worked their way to the ownership of a good farm in Bethel township, starting in humble circumstances and obscurity and using their opportunities and industry to carry them to material independence and the esteem and respect of their fellow-citizens. Joseph M. Studebaker had only those advantages in his youth which come from attendance at the public school and good home rearing. He was taught to be self-reliant, industrious and honest, and these qualities have done much to assist him during his upward climb. His own beginnings, like those of his parents, were small, but he was ambitious and determined and found a way to surmount each obstacle that appeared in his path. As a result he finds himself today the possessor of a fine farm of 195 acres, on a part of which he settled in 1873. His career here has been one of the constant and steady progress and he has so conducted his transactions as to win and hold the confidence of those with whom he has been associated. At various times he has found the opportunity to serve his community in offices of public trust and responsibility to which he has been elected by his fellow-citizens, and his public record is an excellent one. For two terms he was a member of the board of trustees of Elizabeth township, and for thirteen years did much for the cause of education in this locality

as a member of the Elizabeth township board of school directors. At this time he is supervisor of roads of his district. Mr. Studebaker was united in marriage with Mary N., daughter of Isaac Kline, a well-known agriculturist of Elizabeth township, and to this union there were born two children: Alva C., a prosperous farmer of Lost Creek township, Miami county, who married Minnie Bright and they have these children, (a) Gladis, married Lee Zirkel, and mother of one child, Lewis E.; (b) Joseph Foster, (c) Marvin; and Elizabeth Viola, who married Bert Esty, also a farmer of Lost Creek township and has (a) Olivine, (b) Jay, (c) Alva, (d) Eunice, (e) Edna, (f) Louise. During the World war period Mr. Studebaker was a generous contributor to all movements. His pleasant home, situated on Troy R. F. D. No. 6, is kept hospitably open to his many friends. Mr. Studebaker is now deceased.

Walter E. Thompson, one of the substantial representatives of the agricultural interests of Newberry township, and a member of the board of commissioners of Miami county, was born on a farm in Concord township, this county, in 1874, a son of William and Nancy (Green) Thompson. William Thompson was a life-long farmer in Miami county, with the exception of the period that he spent as a soldier of the Union during the war between the states, in which he saw much active fighting as a member of the One Hundred and Forty-fourth regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. When his war services were closed he returned to Concord township, where he became a substantial, influential and highly esteemed citizen. He and his wife were the parents of six children: Charles, Oscar, Walter E., Myrtle, Hattie and Georgette. A son of Oscar Thompson, Clifford Thompson, was one of the heroes of the great World war. While serving in France with an infantry contingent, in the front line trenches, he endeavored to save his comrades by rushing forward and seizing a German hand-grenade which had been thrown into his trench. This exploded before he could cast it from him, blowing away his hand, and he later died from the effects of this injury and an attack of gas. The American Legion post at Troy is named Clifford Thompson Post in honor of his heroic sacrifice. Walter E. Thompson has been a farmer during the greater portion of his life, and has lived on his present property of fifty-three acres since 1911. He has modern improvements and good buildings and carries on his operations in a way that shows he is thoroughly conversant with the most modern methods and the use of the latest-improved appliances. During the war period, in addition to giving personal support to all the movements of the struggle, he was township chairman of most of the war drives, which he managed in an entirely efficient manner. Mr. Thompson has long been intimately identified with civic affairs and during a long period was a member of the board of township trustees. In 1918 he was elected a member of the board of commissioners of Miami county, from Newberry township, and has filled that position very acceptably to the present time. Mr.

Thompson married Flora, daughter of Samuel and Nancy (Williams) Reiber. Mrs. Thompson had a nephew, Raymond Reiber, son of Albert Reiber, who served in the World war and saw active service in France. To Mr. and Mrs. Thompson there have been born two children: Therm and Thelma, both of whom are unmarried and reside with their parents.

William G. Wilson, a highly respected citizen of Concord township, who has passed his career in agricultural operations, was born on the farm on which he now resides, in 1862, a son of John and Elizabeth (Debray) Wilson. John Wilson passed his life as a farmer in Concord township and was a man of influence in his community, where he served as a member of the board of township trustees for forty years and held that position at the time of his death. William G. Wilson is one of a family of eight sons and two daughters born to his parents. One of his sisters, Mrs. Mary Thomas, has one son, Wilson Thomas, who served in the United States Army during the World war and saw active service in France. Rijah Wilson, a brother of William G., has one son, Carl Wilson, who was a member of the famous Thirty-second division, which made a gallant record on the battlefields of France and also saw service in Belgium and Germany. William G. Wilson secured his education in the public school in the vicinity of his boyhood home in Concord township, after leaving which he took up the vocation of farming, which he has followed throughout his life. He is now the owner of a ninety-acre property, all under cultivation, which is beautifully located a very short distance from the county seat of Troy, in Concord township, and on which he has made attractive and valuable improvements. Mr. Wilson married Emma Kerr, and to this union there has been born one daughter, Verna, who was formerly a teacher in the public schools of Concord township. Miss Wilson and her mother were active during the World war period in knitting for the men in the service while Mr. Wilson was a generous contributor to the various loans and other movements. He has been equally active in his citizenship in civic affairs, and is generally known as one of his township's reliable and trustworthy men, as well as a loyal friend, a capable farmer and a supporter of business integrity, high educational standards and morality in all walks of life. Mr. Wilson was county commissioner for six years, being elected in 1905. He belongs to the Christian church with his family. Politically he is a Republican.

Moses B. Wise. A well-improved farm of fifty-five acres in Newberry township bears witness to the early-morning and late-at-night energy of Moses B. Wise, a progressive raiser of the kind of produce which has contributed to the agricultural prestige of the Miami valley. Mr. Wise was born in 1858, near Bradford, Miami county, a son of Moses and Elizabeth (Berkett) Wise. His parents, agricultural people who were highly esteemed in their community, were the parents of thirteen children. Moses B. Wise obtained his education in the public schools of Miami county and

as a youth adopted the vocation of agriculture, which he has followed throughout his career. At the present time he is carrying on operations on the former Falkler farm, a tract of fifty-five acres, on which are to be found numerous improvements, including a comfortable rural home, located on Bradford Rural Route, in which is found the invariable good-fellowship and hospitality which distinguish the well-bred, intelligent and thoroughly progressive agriculturist. Mr. Wise was united in marriage with Anna, daughter of Joseph and Anna (Bashore) Miller, farming people of Miami county, and to this union there have been born seven children: Cora, Jess, Joseph, a farmer of Miami county, who married Mary Falker; Charles, also a Miami county agriculturist, who married Mary Kellar; Homer, who had training at Camp Jackson for the United States Army during the World war; and Ella and Israel, who reside with their parents. Mr. Wise has discharged the duties of good citizenship, but has not sought personal preferment in offices of public character. He is a man of solid and reliable traits of character, generous and consistent in his contributions to worthy causes, and a vigorous promoter of education, morality and good citizenship.

A. W. Taylor. The connection of A. W. Taylor with the business interests of Tippecanoe City has extended over a period of thirty years, during which time he has been identified with the grocery and meat trades as a proprietor. This energetic and highly esteemed merchant was born on a farm in Montgomery county, Ohio, November 5, 1865, a son of John and Sarah (Ehrhart) Taylor. Several of his uncles on the maternal side were among the first volunteers from Montgomery county in the Union army during the Civil war. John Taylor passed the active years of his career in the pursuits of agriculture and became one of his locality's highly esteemed and substantial men. He and his wife were the parents of three children: John Edward, who is engaged in agricultural operations on the old home place in Miami county; George E., formerly a merchant of Tippecanoe City, but now an agriculturist in Miami county, and A. W. A. W. Taylor procured a public school education at Vandalia, Ohio, and grew up on the home farm. As a youth he preferred the opportunities of commercial life to those found in the agricultural districts, and accordingly went as a young man to Vandalia, where he obtained a position in a general store as a clerk. He was thus employed for seven years, following which he embarked in business on his own account at Vandalia, as the proprietor of a meat market. This venture proved successful during the two years that he was engaged therein, but Tippecanoe City offered more attractions to the young merchant, and in 1890 he came to this city and opened a meat market. He continued to confine himself to this line for ten years and then branched out into the grocery business. While he still conducts a meat department, the grocery receives the greater part of his attention, and in its conduct he has won the greatest share of his success. He has a first-class place of busi-

ness, up-to-date in every respect, with modern fixtures and appurtenances, and carries a full line of staple and fancy groceries, and fresh and salt meats, attractively displayed and popularly priced. Mr. Taylor is a musician and for over twenty-five years has played with different musical organizations of the Miami valley. Business ability, sound integrity, a capacity for industrious labor and personal affability and courtesy have all combined to win him success, and at the same time he has maintained a dignified and substantial position in business circles. He has been a good citizen, and during the war period was a generous contributor to the various movements. Mr. Taylor married Lulu N., daughter of John Munist, of Tippecanoe City, and they have two children: John N., born in 1905; and Fred Victor, born in 1912.

Wiley G. Teeter. Into the busy and successful career of W. G. Teeter, of Monroe township, three vocations have entered. First he took up plumbing, gas-fitting, well-drilling and electrical work, then worked as an engineer contractor, and finally settled down to the life of an agriculturist. In each of his vocations he has made his mark, and in each of the several communities in which he has lived he has occupied a position of recognized standing. He was born at Pleasant Hill, Miami county, October 13, 1869, a son of Elias and Susan (Moore) Teeter. His father, of Pennsylvania Dutch stock, followed teaching and farming throughout his life. There were twelve children in the family, of whom ten are living: Addie, Laura, Florence, Ella, Meda, Stella, Mazie, Carrie, Lloyd, W. G., Roy, now a minister, and Rolla. It is a somewhat remarkable fact that all of these children are, or have been, teachers, and that their father was an educator. W. G. Teeter received a practical public school education in his youth and engaged as an engineering contractor and farmer until reaching his majority, when he left the home place to follow his vocation as a plumber, well-driller, electric expert and engineering contractor. He is responsible for the work done on the Troy and Piqua water works, and later was manager of the Dayton local Young Men's Christian Association engineers for eight years. In 1913 he resumed farming, in Montgomery county, where he remained until 1918, then coming back to Miami county, where he is the owner and operator of eighty-three acres of good land in Monroe township, his pleasant home being located on Tippecanoe City R. F. D. No. 3. He has substantial and attractive buildings and modern improvements of all kinds, and devotes his energies to general farming, in addition to which he raises some live stock of a good grade. Mr. Teeter married, September 2, 1894, Laura E., daughter of John P. and Katherine (Funderburg) Altic, of Darke county. Mr. Altic, a farmer by vocation, was a veteran of the Civil war, through which he fought as a corporal in the Seventy-first regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Mrs. Teeter, who was a teacher in the public schools up to the time of her marriage, was one of six children, of whom five are living: William, formerly representative of Darke county in the state legislature, and Nannie,

Elizabeth, Lola and Laura E. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Teeter: Harold, experimental engineer with the Delco Company, Dayton; Forrest, a college student, and Glenna and Ethel, who are attending the local schools. The family is highly cultured and its members have numerous friends in Monroe township. The family attends the First Brethren Church in Dayton, O., and Mr. Teeter was for several years elder.

Horace Tenney, proprietor of the Gem Shoe Store at Troy, O., and one of the progressive and enterprising business citizens of that city, was born in 1874, at Troy, a son of W. I. and Jennie (Kelly) Tenney. His father was born at Fairfield, Montgomery county, Ohio, in 1833, a son of Eli and Margaret Ann (Hatcher) Tenney, the former born in Clark county, Ohio, and the latter in Virginia. As a young man W. I. Tenney was engaged in teaching school and continued thus until he enlisted in the Union army during the war between the states, when he served as a member of Company D, Forty-eighth regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was also a musician of note, and conducted a singing school at Ludlow, also being choir leader of the Christian church of that place. After teaching school for eighteen years in Union township, Miami county, he went to Tuscola, Ill., and established himself in the shoe business. Later he went to Douglas county, Kansas, where he engaged in farming, but in 1873 came back to Troy, O., and shortly thereafter became auditor of Miami county to fill out the unexpired term of his father, who had died while in office, and who had formerly been a member of the Ohio house of representatives. When W. I. Tenney completed his term of office he retired to his farm, but in 1901 was elected to the state legislature, and served for two terms in that body, where his work was characterized by constructive and conscientious labors on behalf of his community and state. He and his worthy wife were the parents of the following children: Ida, who is engaged in teaching school at Denver, Colo.; Frank W., a farmer and stockman of Miami county; Dr. Charles Elmer, a practicing dentist of Toledo, O.; Alice Bertha, the wife of Lee Shellenbarger, of Covington, Ind.; Estella, deceased, who was formerly a popular school teacher of Troy; Dr. William Harold, who is engaged in the practice of dentistry at Toledo; Prof. George L., a professor of music at Lewis Institute, Chicago, director of the Congregational church choir, and Horace. Horace Tenney received a high school education and one of his early employments was as a salesman for the Chicago Tanning Company, producers of and dealers in leather. It was in this connection that he gained his early experience in the shoe industry, which he eventually entered himself at Troy, and in which he is still engaged, being at present the possessor of a splendid business and being accounted one of the progressive business men of his city. He is a member of the Masons and the Knights of Pythias, and during the war period was a generous contributor to all movements promoted to assist in the success of American arms. He married Miss Lula Quackenbush, of Johns-

town, N. Y., and to this union there have been born two children: Marion and Kathryn. Gerald Tenney, son of Elmer Tenney, a brother of Horace, was a lieutenant in the ordnance department during the great World war, and after serving in that capacity at Springfield, Mass., was advanced to become a captain in the regular army. The father of Mr. Tenney, who still survives at an advanced age, maintains his interest in matters, is in good health and still sings in public on occasion. He is especially endowed with good humor and an optimistic outlook on life, and is therefore a great favorite with all who know him.

A. Thoma & Sons. One of the old-fashioned and honored houses of Piqua is that of A. Thoma & Sons, jewelers, the history of which extends back to the year 1838, when it was founded by Augustus Thoma. This worthy man was born near the Black Forest, in Germany, and was twelve years of age when he journeyed to the United States, first settling in New York City, where the lad was apprenticed to the trade of jeweler. It was as a craftsman that he came to Piqua, but after a short time in this city started in business on his own account, in 1838, buying the store of his former employer, Mr. Wilhelm, who had accepted his services upon his arrival at Piqua the year before. Augustus Thoma continued to be identified with the business during the remainder of his life. He was the father of three children: Albin, August, and Caroline, who became the wife of Jacob Hirt. Albin Thoma was born at Piqua and during the Civil war enlisted in an Ohio volunteer Infantry regiment, with which he served gallantly until the close of the struggle. In later years he was local commander of the Grand Army of the Republic. Following his honorable discharge he entered the jewelry business with his father, at whose death he succeeded to the ownership of the business, conducting it successfully alone until 1907, when he admitted to partnership his sons, Albin, Jr., and Leo A. Subsequently the business was removed from the old quarters, where it had remained for sixty-nine years, to its present location at No. 222 North Main street, an up-to-date establishment with the most modern equipment and a large and complete line of jewelry, watches, etc. Albin Thoma, Sr., married Anna, daughter of Arnold Weigler, of Piqua, and to them there were born the following children: Albin, Jr., Leo A., Joseph, Adolph H., Minnie, Louise; Marie, who died in 1918; Anna, Ida and Irma, deceased. The father of these children, in addition to being a master jeweler and a business man of splendid qualities, was widely known in musical circles. He organized and conducted a band which was a famous organization during its day, and was for many years choir leader at St. Boniface Catholic Church, his son Leo having succeeded him in that capacity. Since the death of his father, which occurred August 11, 1919, Albin Thoma, Jr., has been the active head of the jewelry business. That his abilities are out of the ordinary and his integrity assured is evidenced by the fact that he was treasurer of the National Association of Jewelers for two terms, refusing reelection the third time. He

is a graduate optometrist, having studied in New York City, and is in charge of this department of the business at Piqua in person. The Thoma store is an up-to-date, well-appointed establishment and includes among its patrons the best people of Piqua. Mr. Thoma has long been prominent in fraternal circles, having been formerly exalted ruler of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and grand knight of the Knights of Columbus, and at this time is faithful navigator of the fourth degree of the latter order. In March, 1920, this firm purchased the Swain Jewelry Store in Sidney, Ohio, which is managed by Adolph H. Thoma.

Earl Webster Thomas, the energetic proprietor of a thriving and prosperous grocery business in the heart of Covington, was born in Montgomery county, Ohio, July 25, 1879, a son of Irvin and Sarah (Tibbs) Thomas. The family originated in South Carolina, whence it migrated to Indiana and several of its members then became among the very earliest settlers of Miami county. Caleb Mendenhall Thomas, the grandfather of Earl W., was a Quaker and one of the first settlers close to Covington, while the grandmother of Mr. Thomas is said to have been the first white child born in Union township, Miami county. Irvin Thomas was a lifelong agriculturist in Montgomery county, with the exception of the three years and eight months that he spent as a Union soldier in the Civil war, during which time he took part in numerous engagements and was a participant in Sherman's march to the sea. There were twelve children in the family, of whom five are now living. Earl Webster Thomas was educated in the public schools of Montgomery county, and after his graduation from the Irlington High School, began working with his brother on the home farm. Agricultural pursuits, however, did not appeal to him, and, having decided to enter mercantile lines, December 8, 1902, he came to Covington and secured employment in the grocery and bakery of Mr. Knoop. At the end of eight years Mr. Thomas bought a half interest in the business, and for the following eight years the partnership continued. November 18, 1918, Mr. Thomas bought his partner's holdings and since that time has been the sole proprietor. Through ability, integrity, industry and courtesy he has built up and maintained, during the period of his ownership, a large, lucrative and representative patronage. His establishment, situated in the heart of the city, carries a full line of staple and fancy groceries and bakery goods and the business has won an established and substantial place in the confidence and esteem of the buying public. Mr. Thomas is a member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he has numerous friends, as he has also in business circles. He has always been a good citizen, and during the period of the war contributed his full share to the movements promulgated by the Government. Mr. Thomas married Agnes, daughter of Gideon and Anna Rench, of Covington, and to this union there have come four children: Mary Lee, born in 1903; Martha Bell, born in 1906; Maud Janet, born in 1911, and James William, born in 1915.

Gilmer T. Thomas, a leading and prominent lawyer at Troy, president of the Miami county Bar Association, and ex-mayor of his city, was born at Troy, in 1851, a son of William I. and Lucinda (Neal) Thomas. William I. Thomas was born at Philadelphia, Pa., where he attended public school and as a youth came with his parents to Lancaster, Ohio, where he worked in his father's pottery. A desire for further education led him to attend school at Lancaster, where he subsequently read law in the office of Gen. Thomas Ewing and was admitted to the bar. Coming to Troy in 1819, he was later appointed postmaster, an office in which he served with ability, and in 1821 was elected one of the first prosecuting attorneys of his district and served in that office until 1833. He rapidly rose to become one of the distinguished members of the Miami county bar and also was sent to the state senate by the voters of his senatorial district, being one of the able and forceful members of that body. His death occurred at Lawrence, Kans., in 1869, during a buffalo-hunting expedition. Lucinda (Neal) Thomas was born in West Virginia in 1810, a daughter of Richard Neal, an uncle of Gen. Stonewall Jackson, the noted Confederate leader. She came to Troy as a young lady with her mother and step-father, the celebrated Micajah Fairfield, and met and subsequently married Mr. Thomas. They became the parents of eleven children, of whom the following grew to maturity: Stanley O., a man of decided ability as a military leader of distinction, who rose to a brigadier-generalship in the Confederate Army during the war between the North and the South, was subsequently appointed a representative of Mississippi at Paris, France, in the adjustment of claims, became a leader and later president of the Cotton Exchange, was a noted cotton factor and amassed great wealth; Walter S.; William I.; Gilmer T., of this review; Eugene B., who was a lieutenant-commander in the United States Navy during the war between the states and died at Baltimore, Md., and L. A., who was a soldier of the Union Army during the Civil war. After attending the public schools of Troy and the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, Gilmer T. Thomas read law in the office of his brother, Walter S. Thomas, who was considered one of the most brilliant members of the Ohio bar during his day. After being admitted to the bar, Gilmer T. Thomas entered upon the practice of his profession at Troy, where he has ever since enjoyed an increasingly large and important professional business. He has interested himself in public affairs and has served his city capably as mayor and city solicitor. During the great World war he was a member of the legal advisory board and a four-minute man, and in other ways assisted the policy of the administration. His standing in his profession is indicated by his incumbency of the presidency of the Miami County Bar Association. Fraternally, Mr. Thomas is affiliated with the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. He married Emma, daughter of Christian Ziegenfelder, and to this union there has been born one son, William I., of Pittsburgh, Pa., who married Helen Ross and has one daughter, Emeline.

Mrs. Bessie Coleman Thompson. Prominent among the ladies of Troy who have contributed to the city's prestige in various ways is Mrs. Bessie Coleman Thompson. Born at Troy, June 15, 1883, she is a daughter of Horace and Mary Jane (Harter) Coleman. There were four children in the family: Max, who died as a child; Evelyn, the wife of Irvin G. Kumler of the Rike-Kumler Company, of Dayton; Sybil, the wife of Jefferson Stone Combs, of Washington, D. C., and Bessie. After the death of her first husband, Mrs. Coleman married the late William M. Hayner of the Hayner Distillery Company, Troy, and one child was born to that union, Mary Isabelle, of Cleveland, wife of Wilbur Thompson, who was a lieutenant in the United States air service during the World war. Bessie Coleman received her education in the public schools of Troy and at Miss Chamberlain's School, at Boston, Mass., and resided at the home of her parents until October 12, 1904, when she was united in marriage with Henry Spangler Thompson, of Saginaw, Mich. Mr. Thompson was connected with the tobacco department of the Allen-Wheeler Company, of Troy, had extensive farming interests and was a large breeder of stock. Popular with a wide circle of friends and a man possessed of many sterling qualities of character, in his death, which occurred June 16, 1917, his city lost one of its public-spirited citizens and capable business men, as well as a man of many philanthropies. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson had no children, but in 1920, Mrs. Thompson adopted a two-months-old child, Patricia Thompson, whom she will rear to useful womanhood. Mrs. Thompson is widely popular in social circles of the city and is known for her numerous charities, as well as for her accomplishments. During the recent war period, she was an active and effective worker in making surgical dressings and knitted articles, and at that time allied herself with the civilian relief of the American Red Cross, a work in which she continues to be engaged.

Clifford E. Thomson. The oldest furniture and undertaking establishment in Miami county is that now conducted at Troy under the name and management of Clifford E. Thomson, the business having been established here about 1850 and the present proprietor being the third generation of the family to conduct its affairs. Mr. Thomson was born at Troy, September 18, 1892, a son of Elmer E. and Caroline J. (Riley) Thomson. The only child of his parents, he was educated in the public schools and at Denison University, and on completing his studies became associated with his father in the undertaking and furniture business, at the latter's death taking entire charge of the establishment. He carries a full line of high-class furniture and household furnishings and is a business man of sound worth and standing. The undertaking and funeral directing department is fully equipped in every way for the reverent handling and care of the dead. Mr. Thomson has been public-spirited in his citizenship, and during the war period was a member of the Red Cross committee and active in the war chest drives. He belongs to various Masonic bodies and

is also an Elk and a member of the Knights of Pythias. He married Catherine, daughter of Dr. W. H. Sedgwick, a physician, of Newark, Ohio.

Thomas E. Thorpe, who is numbered among the energetic and capable men of the younger business generation at Troy, is a member of the automobile tire and accessory firm of Paul & Thorpe. He was born in the city of Cleveland, Ohio, November 27, 1891, being a son of Thomas E. and Kitty (Friedman) Thorpe, and his education was secured in the public schools of his native city. There he grew to manhood and was variously employed until securing a position on the Cleveland police force, and later came to Troy, where he was made a member of the police department of this city under Chief Louis Paul. In 1920 Mr. Thorpe formed a partnership with Louis Paul, and under the firm style of Paul & Thorpe opened the present business. Dealing in automobile tires and accessories, they have already built up a large patronage and have firmly established their business venture among the substantial enterprises of the city. This firm has recently acquired the county rights for the distribution of the Midwest Engine Company's "Utilitor," manufactured at Indianapolis, a small traction engine or tractor which is becoming an indispensable farm commodity throughout the country. While still a young man, Mr. Thorpe has demonstrated the possession of ability to hold his own in the ever-increasing competition of the city's business activities. He is energetic and progressive and has made a careful study of his business, the details of which hold the greatest interest for him. He is fraternally affiliated with the local lodge of the Improved Order of Red Men. Thus far, the discharge of the duties of good citizenship, especially during the war period, has been his only participation in affairs of a public nature. Mr. Thorpe was united in marriage at Cleveland with Edna, daughter of Victor Killian, and to this union there has been born one son, Thomas W.

A. G. Thuma. Although he is numbered among the more recent acquisitions of the farming industry in Miami county, A. G. Thuma has already established his position as an energetic and progressive agriculturist, belonging to the young and virile generation whose work is imbued with the spirit of enthusiasm and the result-attaining qualities of energy, ambition and vim. He is a native of this county, having been born at Pleasant Hill, January 7, 1891, a son of H. E. and Elizabeth (Burkholder) Thuma, agricultural people who have always been held in the highest esteem in the communities in which they have lived. There are five children in the family: A. G.; William, an electrician at Dayton; Grace, who resides with her parents; Bertha, the wife of Joe Kraus, of Piqua, Ohio; Melford, who is engaged in farming in Miami county. A. G. Thuma received his education in the public schools and as a young man went to Dayton, where he secured employment with the National Cash Register Company, a concern with which he was identified for five years. While his position was a steady and remunerative one and his connections congenial and

attractive, he was called back to the soil, and resigning from the big Dayton plant, he went to Indiana, where he followed farming for several years. March 1, 1920, he came to his present farm in Monroe township, a well-cultivated and highly productive property of sixty acres, on which he has already made a number of modern improvements, thus adding to the value and attractiveness of the farm. He follows modern methods in his work, is a close student of his chosen vocation, and has been accepted as an intelligent and industrious farmer, one alive to his opportunities and capable of making the most of them. Mr. Thuma has been too busy getting himself started on the road to agricultural success to think of mixing in public affairs as a seeker after preferment, but has not neglected the responsibilities of citizenship and will be found behind all good movements. He married, February 19, 1914, Marie, daughter of Albert E. and Margaret E. (Waters) Sites, of Muncie, Ind. Mrs. Sites is now deceased. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Thuma: Bearl, Esther and Gale, all at home. The pleasant family residence is located on Tippecanoe City R. F. D. No. 3, a community in which Mr. and Mrs. Thuma have already made a number of warm friends.

Edward H. Timmer, treasurer and manager of the Miami County Lumber Company, of Tippecanoe City, was born in this city in 1872, a son of Gerhard and Wilhelmina (Kettlehake) Timmer. Gerhard Timmer was one of those who answered the call of California during the great gold rush of 1849, meeting with some success and returning to Ohio with capital. He became a pioneer cooper and operated a cooperage along the banks of the old Miami canal, shipping his barrels to all points in the Miami valley, as well as elsewhere. A progressive man, he assisted materially in the development of the industries of this section. He and his wife were the parents of nine children: Mrs. T. S. Conway, deceased; Mrs. Matilda Meyers; Mrs. Samuel Musselman; Callie, of Piqua; B. F., of Tippecanoe City; Mrs. Dr. E. B. Davis, also of this city; Mrs. Charles Peters, of Dayton; Edward H., and A. W., a banker of Tippecanoe City. Edward H. Timmer was educated at Tippecanoe City and after his graduation from high school entered the dry goods business. Later he was a member of the hardware firm of Timmer Brothers, and in 1910 embarked in the lumber business with C. W. Jensen & Company. In 1917 Mr. Timmer became identified with the Miami County Lumber Company, of which he is now treasurer and manager, and in the growth and development of which he has played an important part. Mr. Timmer married Florence, daughter of Daniel Agenbrood, and to this union there have been born two children: Helen, who resides with her parents, and Herman, who attended West Point Academy for one year and is now associated with his father in the lumber business. Mr. and Mrs. Timmer are members of the German Lutheran church. He is fraternally affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and has a number of important business and civic connections.

Charles W. Tobey, who has been engaged in the drug business at Troy, Ohio, for forty-four years, is one of the sound and reliable citizens of this community and is widely and favorably known in the drug business. He traces his ancestry in this country back to one of the pilgrim fathers, and is the possessor of one of the earliest translations of the Martin Luther edition of the Bible, which has been in the family's possession since the year 1534. His grandfather was one of the early bishops of the United Brethren church in this country. Nathaniel Tobey, father of Charles W., founded the present Tobey drug business at Troy more than half a century ago and continued his connection therewith until the time of his death, when his community lost a business man of strict integrity and a citizen of public spirit. He married Martha J. Worman, whose people were among the earliest settlers of Dayton, and they had two children: Charles W., and Carrie May, who married C. Frank Lantis, formerly representative of Preble county in the Ohio state legislature, and now deputy United States collector for Cincinnati. Charles W. Tobey was born at Dayton, Ohio, June 17, 1855, and received his early education in the public schools of Dayton and Troy, following which he pursued a course in the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. He was graduated therefrom in 1876 and at that time joined his father, who had established a drug business at Troy, the first name of the firm being N. Tobey & Son. That style continued until the elder man's death, when the son took over the business, which has since been conducted under the business style of C. W. Tobey. He carries a complete line of drugs, medicines, toilet articles, candies, cigars, etc., and has an up-to-date establishment which is largely patronized by the best people of Troy. Mr. Tobey is widely known among druggists throughout the state, by whom he is held in high esteem. He was one of the founders and the first chairman of the executive committee of the Ohio State Pharmaceutical Association, of which he is a past president. He belongs likewise to the American Pharmaceutical Association and is an honorary member of the National Board of Pharmacy of the United States, and for ten years was a member of the examining board of state chemistry. As a fraternalist he holds membership in the Masons, the Knights of Pythias and the Junior Order of United American Mechanics. In all civic affairs he contributed his support to progressive movements. Mr. Tobey married Ella R., daughter of George Browning Reed, of Troy.

John Wesley Underwood, Jr. During his long and honorable career in Miami county, J. W. Underwood, Jr., has worked out an admirable destiny, and from small beginnings has drawn around him for the comfort and happiness of his later years such substantial compensations as wealth, the affectionate devotion of his well-established children, the credit for having contributed largely to the general development of the community and the confidence and good will of his business and social associates. Mr. Underwood, a resident of Monroe township, was born in this town-

ship July 29, 1855, a son of J. W. and Margaret (Hoover) Underwood. His parents, life-long farming people of this locality, were among the highly respected people of the Tippecano City vicinity and were much esteemed for their many admirable qualities of mind and heart. J. W. Underwood, the younger, secured his education through attendance at the rural schools and passed his boyhood and youth in much the same manner as other farmers' sons of his day, the short winter terms being passed in study and the long summer months in assisting his father in the work of the home place. He married December 12, 1878, Catherine, daughter of Daniel and Agatha (Werthern) Foreman, and to this union there have been born the following children: Zelda, the wife of Oscar Karns; Carrie, the wife of Perry Emerich; Raymond, who is farming with his father-in-law, he married Clara Antonides, and they are the parents of four children: Albert, Luella, George W., and Ester; Noda, the wife of Howard Shearer; Foreman, a farmer in Monroe township, who married Hilda Elman, and they have one child, David Wesley; and Gertrude, the wife of J. C. Robbins, who is now managing the Underwood farm and they have one child, Forrest Edwin. Following his marriage, Mr. Underwood began farming operations on his own account. His beginnings were small, but he possessed the necessary ambition and perseverance, and gradually worked his way to a place among the substantial tillers of the soil of his township, and is now the owner of eighty acres, besides other property. In 1913, he purchased the old Martindale farm, his present property, and here he has made numerous modern improvements. In his career he has demonstrated what a man can accomplish through straight-forward and practical methods, and by exercising always in his associations with his fellow-men the qualities of integrity, consideration and kindness. During the war period, Mr. Underwood was actively engaged in assisting the various movements, and acted as solicitor for the war chest drive in his part of Monroe township. He is a Republican, and was director of the Miami county infirmary for six years. He also served as squire for one term. He is a member of the United Brethren church, and is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and also the encampment.

Charles B. Upton, assistant manager of the French Oil Machine Company, is one of Piqua's native sons who has accepted the opportunity of winning business success in the city of his birth. He was born at Piqua, March 27, 1884, a son of Mathew and Helen (Davis) Upton, the former of whom was a well-known business man of this city for a number of years, having been the proprietor of a grocery business which he developed through industry and ability from small proportions to an important venture. Charles B. Upton was given his preliminary educational training in Piqua's public schools, following which he studied electric engineering. In 1905 he entered the service of the French Oil Machine Company, in a clerical capacity, and subsequent consecutive promotions, resulting from his industry and developing abili-

ty, advanced him to the position which he now occupies, that of assistant manager. In this capacity he has general supervision of sales, purchases and other important features of the business, and in every way has discharged his duties in a manner which warrants the high confidence in which he is held. Mr. Upton married Mary Gladys, daughter of E. E. Ludlow, of Piqua, and they have one daughter, Mary Rebecca. Mr. Upton was active in all war activities, especially those of the Young Men's Christian Association, in which he was a member of the "booster team," and was city chairman of the four-minute men. At present he is a director of the Young Men's Christian Association and belongs to the Masons, and the Piqua and Golf clubs. His religious connection is with the Presbyterian church, to which belongs also Mrs. Upton, who during the war period worked energetically in behalf of the Red Cross and other movements promulgated and fostered by her sex.

C. C. Wagner, who has been long and favorably known to the people of Miami county because of his identification with agricultural matters, is now engaged in successful operations in Washington township. Mr. Wagner is a native of Piqua county, Ohio, born October 14, 1869, near Circleville, a son of John and Susan (Dolby) Wagner, both of whom were born in Piqua county, and were farmers. Here the son received his education in the public schools. Reared as a farmer's son, he adopted the vocation of agriculture, upon attaining his majority, and after several years farming in Piqua county, came to Miami county in 1901, which has been his home ever since. He is a man of substantial standing, and at various times has managed farms for prominent landholders of this and other townships, including the Hayner farm, belonging to Mrs. Mary Hayner, of Troy. He is progressive in his ideas, industrious in his habits, and modern in his methods and is known as one who has assisted in the development of Washington township as a center of agricultural activity. During the war period, Mr. Wagner supported all movements fostered for the success of American arms, giving freely of his means to the various drives and loans. He married, December 28, 1898, Miss Cora Hines, a daughter of Zachariah and Anna (Speakman) Hines, natives of Ross county, who moved to Miami in 1901, and both of whom are still living. Mr. and Mrs. Wagner are the parents of two children: Pearl R., a farmer of Miami county, who married December 29, 1919, Edna Brinkman, and Charles H., who is assisting his father. Mr. Wagner is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge, of Circleville, Ohio. He is a Democrat, and with his family attends the Methodist church of Piqua.

W. W. Wagner. During the more than thirty years in which he has been identified with business affairs at Piqua, W. W. Wagner has established an unquestioned reputation for business integrity and honorable dealing. He was born on a farm in Shelby county, Ohio, November 4, 1867, a son of Jacob and Harriet (Drake) Wagner, agricultural people of that community and the

parents of three children, of whom W. W. is the only survivor. He received his education in the country schools of Laramie township, Shelby county, and was fourteen years of age at the time he gave up his studies to start to learn the carpenter trade. He had the opportunity to remain on the farm and inherit his father's property but he preferred city life instead, and after he had followed the carpenter trade for a number of years came to Piqua, in 1889, and immediately entered the furniture business, the firm being known as Wagner, Grover & Company. This association continued until 1915, when Mr. Wagner disposed of his interest in the furniture business, but retained his holdings in the undertaking department which had been a branch of the enterprise for some years. He established his parlors at 128 West Ash street, subsequently locating at 407 West High street, where he has one of the most up-to-date establishments in the state, including a chapel. Mr. Wagner has always been honorable in his business dealings, and has formed many lasting friendships among those whose homes he has entered during times of bereavement. He possesses in full measure the quality of infinite tact, as well as unbounded sympathy. He married Clara E., daughter of Reinhart and Sarah (Howell) Snypp, farming people of Shelby county, and two children were born to this union: Chester and Elva. Mr. Wagner was a generous supporter of all war activities. He is prominent in fraternal circles, being a valued member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Improved Order of Red Men and the Masons. With his family, he holds membership in the Presbyterian church.

Darius Weddle. Among the old and honored farmers of Miami county, one who has carried on operations for forty-five years is Darius Weddle, whose well-cultivated country estate lies in Elizabeth township. Mr. Weddle is a Virginian by nativity, and was born November 13, 1848, a son of Rev. John B. and Louanna (Simmons) Weddle. His father was a planter of the old dominion and a man in good circumstances, and he and his worthy wife were greatly esteemed in the community of their home. He was a minister of the Church of the Brethren. Darius Weddle was given the advantages of a public school education and reared to the life of a farmer, a vocation which he adopted when he grew to manhood. For some years after he reached his majority he continued to follow farming in Virginia, and also attended the agricultural college, at Lexington, Ky., but about 1875 came to Ohio. Here, to prepare himself better for his future career, he attended the Lebanon Normal School, and among his classmates were a number of men who have since reached prominence, among them being William H. Francis, of Troy; Henry Newman; Doctor Means, of Troy, and B. F. Moore. Mr. Weddle again engaged in farming, and for many years has lived on his farm in Elizabeth township, where he has splendid improvements, including substantial buildings and a comfortable modern home. He has always discharged the duties of good citizenship in a

public-spirited manner and is well worthy of the trust reposed in him by his fellow-citizens. Mr. Weddle married, January 24, 1870, Anna, daughter of Rev. I. S. Studebaker, a well-known divine, and whose wife was Anna Warner, daughter of George and Catherine (Olinger) Warner. To Mr. and Mrs. Weddle were born eight children: William Harvey, who died at the age of nine months; Albert S., unmarried, who resides near Philadelphia, Pa.; James A., who died at the age of one month and six days; Carrie Estella, who resides at home; Dora Lee, who resides at home; Louanna, who died at the age of six months; Isaac S., who resides at home, and Bessie Millicent, at home. Mr. Weddle is a member in the Miami Valley Coal Company. He is a member of the board of health, the farm bureau, and the Church of the Brethren, of which he is a deacon.

Harvey Wenrick. By those who were privileged to know him and who were called upon to mourn his untimely death which occurred December 22, 1906, the late Harvey Wenrick is remembered as a man of high principle, industry and good citizenship, who during his lifetime in Miami county was engaged in agricultural pursuits and won a substantial competence in following his calling. He was born January 15, 1860, in Pennsylvania, and as a young man migrated to Miami county, taking up his residence in Newberry township, where he passed the rest of his life as a tiller of the soil. He never sought public honors, being satisfied to devote himself entirely to his home and his farm, but could always be counted upon to give his support to worthy measures which promised to contribute to the welfare of his community. Mr. Wenrick married Emma, daughter of Percival and Jane (Stewart) Wilhelm, and elder sister of Minna, Eno and Henry Wilhelm. To Mr. and Mrs. Wenrick there were born the following children: Bessie, the wife of Dan Wenrick; Laura Belle, the wife of Van Cleland; Alma Marie, the wife of Ben Shroyer; Albert, who married Ethel Miller, all farming people of Miami county, and Wilbur, Bertha May, Mary Gladys and Ruth Allen, all residing on the home place. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Wenrick has continued to make her home on the eighty-acre tract, where she carries on operations assisted by her sons. She is a lady of good business ability, and has also other accomplishments and graces that have combined to make her the center of a circle of admiring friends.

Simon Wehneman. Among its most intelligent and practical retired farmers, Newberry township numbers Simon Wehneman, whose family has lent its good name and honest intent to Miami and Shelby counties since 1837, and who is now the owner of a comfortable home and tract of land on Covington R. F. D. No. 1. Mr. Wehneman was born in Shelby county, Ohio, November 8, 1852, a son of J. Henry and Annie Elizabeth Ficken Wehneman, natives of Germany. J. Henry Wehneman was still a young man when he immigrated to the United States, and one year after his arrival came to Miami county, where he settled in 1837. He was

variously employed until the outbreak of the Mexican war, when he enlisted as a volunteer in the United States Army, under Gen. Zachary Taylor, and saw two years of military experience. When he was honorably discharged he returned to Miami county where, March 18, 1850, he married his wife and shortly thereafter removed to Shelby county, where his death occurred July 20, 1874, after he had engaged for nearly a quarter of a century in agricultural operations. Simon Wehneman was educated in the public schools of Shelby county and grew up on the home farm. He entered upon independent operations soon after the attainment of his majority and through industry and good management made a success of his affairs, accumulating two farms of seventy-four and 176 acres respectively, in Shelby county. In 1915 he rented his properties and came to Newberry township, where he lives on a four-acre plot, as a retired farmer. Mr. Wehneman was united in marriage June 26, 1893, with Miss Anna W. Roeth, who was born in Germany and immigrated to Shelby county in 1880, daughter of Charles Roeth, a farmer of that locality. To this union there have been born four children: Carl Henry, who is engaged in the operation of one of his father's farms; Albert Frederick, who makes his home with his elder brother; Lawrence Edward, who had eighteen months of training in the camp hospital at Morrison, Va., during the World war period and now resides with his father, and Bertha Katherine, who resides with her parents. Albert F. Wehneman was placed in class one during the World war, but was not called upon for service, and he and his brother, Carl H., did much effective soliciting of funds for the various war drives in Shelby county.

Carl D. Williamson, senior repeater man for the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, at Phoneton, has been identified with his present line of work since leaving school and has been connected with his present concern since 1911. Mr. Williamson, a resident of Tippecanoe City, was born at Claflin, Barton county, Kansas, June 10, 1887, a son of James William and Mary (Simms) Williamson. When he was still a child, his parents came to Ohio, where he attended the public schools. This educational training was supplanted by two years of attendance at the business college at Zanesville, Ohio, where he specialized in stenography, typewriting and business accounting. When he left this institution, he was equipped to enter upon his career, and his first position was as a telegrapher with the Pennsylvania railroad, with which system he remained seven years. On leaving that concern he came to Phoneton and identified himself in February, 1911, with the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, with which concern he has since been associated. At present Mr. Williamson is senior repeater man, a responsible post. About two years after joining this company, during the great floods of 1913, Mr. Williamson had an opportunity to be of assistance to his company and the public in general. In another emergency, that of the World war, he likewise rose to his opportunity, and he and his co-workers

of the company devoted themselves untiringly to the matter of assisting their community in gaining its full quotas during the different drives. Mr. Williamson is a member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he has numerous friends. He married May, daughter of Charles F. Ossing, of Cardington, Ohio, and they reside in a pleasant home at Tippecanoe City.

A. C. Wilson. In point of service one of the oldest business men of Piqua, where he has conducted a pharmacy since 1876, A. C. Wilson is also one of the most highly esteemed business residents of the city. He was born in Berkeley county, West Virginia, December 7, 1851, a son of James M. and Anna B. (Robinson) Wilson, whose other children were: Edwin K., Romney, William A., Charles M., and Anna. A. C. Wilson was educated in the public schools of West Virginia and after completing his studies left his native state and located in Ohio. Settling at Piqua he secured employment as clerk in a drug store, and in 1876 purchased an establishment of his own, which he has continued to conduct successfully to the present time. During forty-four years of continuous service to the people of Piqua as a pharmacist he has established a splendid record for honorable dealing and constancy to high business principles, and during this period has made and maintained many sincere friendships among the people. Mr. Wilson is an Odd Fellow and belongs to the Presbyterian church. While he is essentially a business man, he takes a good citizen's interest in political affairs, and has always supported progressive movements, and during the war was an active worker in behalf of measures made necessary by the great struggle in Europe. Mr. Wilson married Nora, daughter of Dr. Joseph Brown, of Urbana, Ohio, and to this union there were born three children: Albert B., who married Margaret Wilthers; Marietta, who married Wilbur Baldwin, and J. Lloyd, who married Grace Sturm. All are residents of Piqua.

Charles L. Wood, one of the leading business men of Piqua, who also has been identified with the civic, educational and religious affairs of the city for many years, was born at Hollis, N. H., and traces his ancestry back to fine old New England stock. His great-great-great-grandfather was Stephen Wood, a native of Massachusetts, where was born also the latter's son, Benjamin Wood. Benjamin Wood's son, Abijah Wood, the great-grandfather of Charles L., fought as a soldier of the Revolution, and his son, Philip, married Dorthy Davis, whose father, Joshua Davis, was likewise a soldier during the Revolutionary war. C. A. Wood, the father of Charles L., was born at Hollis, N. H., in 1820, a son of Philip and Dorothy (Davis) Wood, and married Hannah French Washer, a daughter of John and Mary (Robinson) Washer, the former a grandson of Stephen Washer, a soldier of the Revolution. Mary Robinson was a daughter of Peter Robinson, who was a Revolutionary soldier and lost his right hand at the battle of Bunker Hill, when struck by a cannon ball. To C. A. and Hannah Wood there were born three children: Charles L., George

Philip and Marcus Davis. Charles L. Wood was educated at Piqua, and after graduating from high school began to teach. Later he went to Hollis, N. H., his birthplace, and for a time taught school there while engaged in reading law. Admitted to the bar in 1865, he at once entered partnership with Judge W. N. Foster, of Piqua, but one year later when Judge Foster was elevated to the probate bench of Miami county, Mr. Wood entered business with his father, and has continued to center his activities in commercial affairs to the present time, having been proprietor of the Wood Planing Mill since the death of the elder man. This enterprise has always enjoyed an excellent trade and is accounted one of the concerns of Piqua which have contributed materially to the city's prestige. Essentially a business man, Mr. Wood has not found himself too occupied to engage in other lines of activity. For twelve years he served as president of the board of education, was formerly president of the Young Men's Christian Association, for thirty-five years was president of the board of trustees of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church and for ten years was president of the Third Building & Loan Association. At this time he is a trustee of the Young Men's Christian Association and president of the Piqua Memorial Hospital board of trustees, a Mason, and holds membership in the Piqua Club, the Piqua Chamber of Commerce, the Ohio Society, and Sons of the Revolution, of which last-named he has served as a member of the board of managers several times. Mr. Wood married Julia A., daughter of William and Martha (Hawthorne) Miller, and they have three children, as follows: Miss Martha H., who resides with her parents at Piqua; Mrs. Nellie E. Taylor, of Cincinnati, and William Washer, of Kokomo, Ind.

Rev. Joel P. Wray. The agricultural interests of Bethel township have a capable and worthy representative in Joel P. Wray, a resident of this county for a quarter of a century and since 1908 the owner and operator of a well-cultivated farm of 110 acres. Mr. Wray is one of the contributions of the old dominion state to the Miami valley, and was born May 24, 1851, son of Benjamin and Mary (Angle) Wray. The members of this family for the most part have been agriculturists and the parents followed farming throughout their lives in Virginia. They had eight children. Joel P. Wray had a public school education in his native state and when he reached his majority embarked in farming ventures on his own account. He lived in various communities until 1895, at which time he was attracted to the Miami valley, which has since been his home. He has operated several farms in Miami county, and since 1908 has lived on his property in Bethel township, with his residence on New Carlisle R. F. D. No. 5. Mr. Wray is a farmer and stock raiser of practical ideas and progressive methods and his success has been won on merit. He has made his property attractive by the process of installing good buildings and other improvements, and in his community is generally regarded as a good farmer, a public spirited citizen, and a man well-informed on

subjects of interest and importance. Mr. Wray married, November 26, 1873, Sarah C., daughter of William and Mary (Graybill) Bowman, an agriculturist of Virginia, where the latter was born, and was married. She was one of ten children, of whom nine are now living, and to Mr. and Mrs. Wray there have been born five children: Mary S., who married Charles Franz, of Clark county, Ohio; Daniel P., who died in 1888; Glenn I., who married Thomas Lynch, of Bethel township, and they are the parents of four children, Mary F., William, who died at the age of seventeen, Ella and John J.; Benjamin W., who is engaged in farming, and married Fern Roof. They have two children, Olen and Dewitt, and Joel C., who farms with his father. During the World war, Joel C. Wray was called into the United States service, and was absent from home from October 3, 1917, to March 15, 1919. He did not get overseas, but trained at Camp Sherman, Camp Green, Little Rock, Ark., and Charlotte, N. C., and finally returned to Camp Sherman for his honorable discharge. He is accounted one of the enterprising and progressive young farmers of his community. Joel P. Wray is a Republican, but has never sought an office. He is a member of the German Baptist church, in which he was ordained as a minister in 1875. His first charge was in Franklin county, Virginia, and he has been a minister in Miami for twenty-five years.

Ray H. Woodcox. One of the old-established business houses of Piqua is the hardware establishment now conducted by Ray H. Woodcox, which has served this community honorably and capably during a period of more than a quarter of a century. Its present proprietor was born on a farm in Washington township, Shelby county, Ohio, March 24, 1884, a son of I. N. and Emma Honelle Woodcox. Mr. Woodcox attended the public schools, and after his graduation from the Sidney High School entered the hardware business of his father at Piqua, where he thoroughly learned the trade, in all of its details. At the time of the elder man's demise, the son succeeded to the ownership, and at this time has a well-equipped establishment, carrying a full and modern line of shelf and heavy hardware, stoves, etc. Through honorable methods and good management he has built up and held a large patronage, the possession of which yields him a satisfactory business income, at the same time giving him position and standing among the merchants of his adopted city. Mr. Woodcox married Carrie, daughter of John Long, of Troy, Ohio, and they have one daughter, Mary Jane. Mr. Woodcox is a member of the Elks, the Masons and the Rotary Club and has given evidence of his public spirit on a number of occasions.

Daniel H. Young. During the past twelve years, Daniel H. Young has been the proprietor of a general grocery and market business at Troy, in the development of which he has manifested his business capacity and sound integrity. He is a native of Preble county, Ohio, and was born May 3, 1869, a son of Manassas W. and Nancy (Lesh) Young, and grandson of a veteran of the Civil

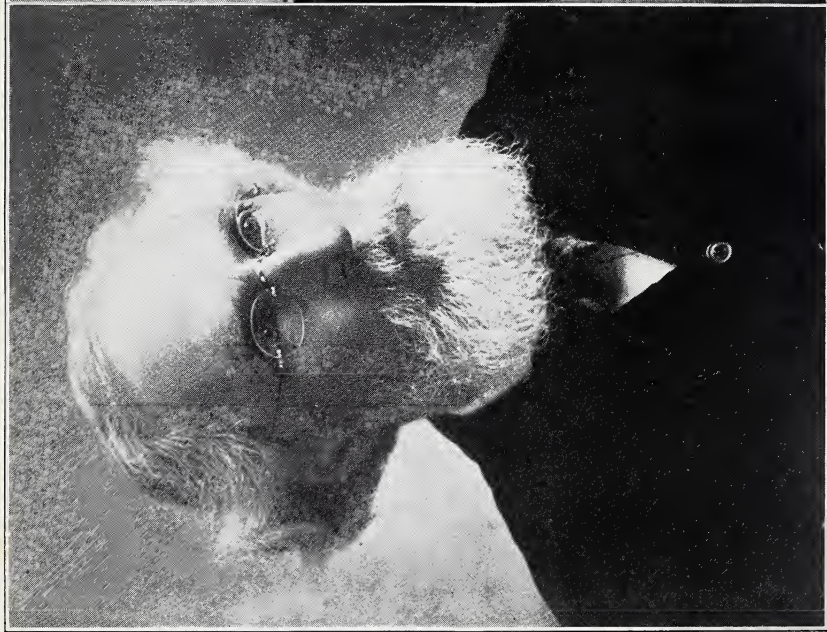
war. His father, a native of Virginia, was a miller by trade and went as a young man to Preble count, where he married Miss Lesh, a native of that county. There they spent their lives in milling and farming, and both passed away, greatly esteemed, in April, 1904. They were the parents of seven children: Milton Vincent, who died in 1901; Clara May, who died in 1902; Permelia Catherine, the wife of Fred A. Huette, of Dayton; Medorah Oretta, the wife of Frank Kerst, of Greenville, Ohio; Charles Wenford, associated in business with his brother Daniel H.; Rolland Roy, a commission merchant of Dayton, and Daniel H. Daniel H. Young attended the public schools, principally in the country district of Miami county, and upon the completion of his education went to the western part of Indiana, where he spent one year on a farm. He then turned his attention to mercantile pursuits, obtaining a position as clerk in the general store of L. Ammon & Son, at Georgetown, an enterprise with which he continued to be identified for nine years. Going then to Dayton, he worked for various commission merchants for a like period, and in that city embarked in business on his own account, being associated with his brother in the proprietorship of a grocery and market there for four years. In November, 1908, the brothers transferred their activities to Troy, where they have since been in the enjoyment of a large, flourishing and constantly-growing business. They carry a full line of staple and fancy groceries, sea food and fresh and salt meats and include among their patrons many of the best families of Troy whose custom has been attracted by fair representation, honorable methods and courteous service. Mr. Young married Miss Francanna, daughter of Samuel and Susanna (Hall) Rodehamel, and a grand-daughter on both sides of pioneers of Miami county. Mrs. Young is one of a family of nine children, of whom four are living: Isaac M., of Troy; Simon P., of Dayton; Jesse E., of Chicago, and Mrs. Young. Mr. Young is a Mason and Odd Fellow and member of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics. He is public-spirited to a high degree and was a generous contributor to all war measures.

Isaac Newton Barr. The Barr family has been identified with the agricultural interests of Miami county since 1836, and since 1873 a worthy representative of this family, Isaac Newton Barr, has been a resident of his present farm in Bethel township. Mr. Barr is not only a successful farmer, but also a well-known contracting carpenter, and is considered one of the substantial and successful men of his community. He was born in Greene county, Ohio, February 24, 1854, a son of John and Margaret (Vanhook) Barr. John Barr was born in Pennsylvania, and was still a young man when he came to Ohio, making the entire journey on foot and walking behind a truck which made the overland trip. John Barr was a lifelong farmer, a vocation which he followed principally in Greene county and was a man of worth and substance who had the respect and esteem of the people of his community. His death occurred in 1917. Of the twelve children born to John and Mar-

garet Barr, eleven are living. Isaac Newton Barr was educated in the public schools of Greene county and was nineteen years of age when he came to Miami county and settled on his present property. As a lad he had applied himself to learning the carpenter trade, and this, with farming, has been his vocation. His home property consists of eighty-four acres, in a good state of cultivation and with substantial buildings of Mr. Barr's own erection. As a carpenter, Mr. Barr's good wormanship and fidelity to engagements have gained him an enviable reputation and he has completed contracts all over the county, where the structures which he has built stand as monuments to his mastery of his trade and the sound character of his work. Mr. Barr has been a good citizen and has fulfilled his duties with public spirit and faithfulness, particularly during the war period when his support was liberal. Several of the family served in the United States Army during the war, including Mr. Barr's nephews, David Barr, the son of Joseph Barr, of Phoneton, Ohio, who was overseas in the capacity of instructor in telegraphy and wigwagging subjects, and Owen and John Barr, the sons of Henry Barr. Mr. Barr married on April 4, 1884, Mary Livensburger, of Dayton, who was born and raised in Columbus. She died February 19, 1887, and now his sister, Patience Barr, keeps house for him. She was born in Greene county, Ohio, in 1852, and is an amiable and pleasant lady.

Charles Thomas Boone, a resident of Miami county since 1903, is numbered among the energetic agriculturists of Bethel township, where he is the renter of a valuable and well cultivated property, owned by his father. He is a native of Franklin county, Virginia, born September 25, 1883, and belongs to an agricultural family, his parents, Joseph Benjamin and Betty (Angle) Boone, having been farming people in the Old Dominion state. Of the seven children in the family, six are living. Mr. Boone was educated in the public schools of his native county and when he reached man's estate engaged in farming on his own account. He was twenty years of age when he came to Miami county, where his success has been gained through industry and intelligent management of his interests. The 160-acre farm is fertile and productive and the improvements that he has placed thereon are modern in character and practical in design. It has been his well-merited fortune to have not only won success in a material way but to have attracted to himself the warm regard and confidence of those with whom he has been associated. During the period of the World war, the Ten Eyck district was allotted him in the war chest drives and he was able to bring this district well over its quota. Mr. Boone married Bertie, daughter of Edward Dickson, of West Virginia. The pleasant Boone home is located on Tippecanoe City R. F. D. No. 4. In his political beliefs he gives his support to the Republican party.

R. H. Deam. Prominently identified with the mercantile interests of Miami county is R. H. Deam, the proprietor of the Ford agency at Tippecanoe City, and one of the progressive and energetic



MR. AND MRS. HORACE J. ROLLIN

business men of this community. Mr. Deam was born in Miami county, in 1871, a son of W. H. and Henrietta (Freeman) Deam. His parents were farming people who passed their lives in the pursuits of the soil and were highly respected in their locality. Mr. Deam has one brother, Emerson, a resident of Sidney, who fought with the American forces overseas during the World war as a second lieutenant in the Eighty-third division. R. H. Deam was educated in the country schools of Miami county and brought up on the home farm, but after attaining his majority turned his attention to mercantile affairs and for some years has conducted implement establishments at Phoneton and Tippecanoe City. Both of these stores are modern in equipment and stock and both have won a very liberal patronage through the business ability and good judgment of their proprietor. Mr. Deam married Crissie, daughter of Robert R. Smith, of Miami county, and to this union there have been born these children: Leslie, deceased; Cecil H., Nellie, Morris and Robert J. Cecil H. Deam enlisted for service in the United States Army during the World war, at Dayton, where he did guard duty for several months, and was then sent to Montgomery, Ala., where he received further training, as he did also at Augusta, Ga., and Charlotte, N. C. He was sent overseas with the One Hundred and Forty-eighth Infantry, Thirty-seventh division, and soon transferred to the front line, taking part in the engagements of St. Mihiel and Argonne Forest. In the battle in the Meuse sector he was severely shell shocked and incapacitated for further duty, subsequently spending five months in the hospital. July 25, 1919, he received his honorable discharge and returned to his home, where he has since been assisting his father in the conduct of his mercantile ventures. R. H. Deam has an excellent reputation in business circles as a man of sound integrity, while as a citizen his support has always been given to worthy ventures for civic improvement and advancement.

Horace J. Rollin. Among the oldest families of Ohio and Miami county is that of Horace J. Rollin. Four generations have owned and occupied the old-fashioned homestead for 106 years. It is midway between Piqua and Troy at center of county. Josiah Rollin, with his aged mother, came from New England in 1815, after service in the War of 1812. His canteen is among the interesting family relics. With him also came his son, Isaac, who, though a boy, could reap wheat. In time he became a representative farmer, being one of the first to use the primitive reaping-machine. Isaac T. Rollin departed this life in 1890, aged eighty-six years. Five of his six sons were Union soldiers in the Civil war, among them being Horace, the youngest, then not grown, (October 2, 1845). He had the privilege of hearing the immortal Lincoln speak. The Rollin ancestor, James, came to Massachusetts in 1632, later settling in New Hampshire. The mother, Eleanor Hart Rollin, was of the old Hart family of New Jersey (to which belonged John Hart, signer of the Declaration of Independence) and at the age of four came with her parents, Charles and Nancy, to Miami county.

She passed to the beyond in 1895, aged eighty-seven, retaining her wonderfully clear mind until the close. Among the members of the Hart family was Eleanor's cousin, Col. J. H. H. (of Piqua), Federal army, who—leading his regiment—was awfully wounded at Nashville. The Rollin family is of English origin, and very old. Its ancestry is traced back to the time of Edward IV., to relationship with the Cornwall family. Certain members were knighted and had a coat-of-arms. Some genealogists believe there is kinship with the French families of Raoullin, Rawlin and Rollin. Ledru Rollin was coadjutor with Victor Hugo for liberty, and Charles was author of a notable ancient history. In the centuries the name has varied as to spelling. Governor Frank R., of New Hampshire, was of this stock, as were U. S. Congressman Edward H. R., and U. S. Commissioner of Internal Revenue (1865) Edward Ashton R. Joseph R., great grandfather of Horace, was a soldier throughout the war of the Revolution, and the book of genealogy says there were about twenty of the name in that service. Among some of the notable families in marriage alliance with this name are the old-time ones of Emerson, Paine, Hale, Putnam, Lincoln, Phillips, Prescott, etc. Mrs. Rollin, formerly Miss Nancy E. Bridge—for many years a truly esteemed teacher in Cincinnati public schools—was also of a very old family. Her parents were Josiah (a professional teacher) and Eleanor Harrington Bridge, both of Massachusetts, later of Ohio. Her transition to the beyond occurred in 1913, respected and loved by all who knew her. The ancestor, John Bridge, came from England in 1631, and settled at Cambridge, Mass. There is now a bronze statute of this emigrant, facing the campus of Harvard University, of which he was founder, with his friend, Shepard and others. His descendants include soldiers, statesmen, ministers, educators, and one president of the United States, Garfield. Major Bridge, Col. Ebenezer B., and other relatives, fought at Bunker Hill. Mr. Rollin worked on the farm until his army service, then attended a normal school. But his health being too delicate for strenuous work, he was moved—perhaps intuitively—and began (without teacher) the quiet but practical study of art, for which, as a boy, he had peculiar liking. He presently produced some landscape paintings, which were purchased by certain persons at Cincinnati, where he entered the art school. It was then, and for many years, under Principal T. S. Noble, who had attended several great schools in Europe. He was unable to continue steadily but was given honorable mention by faculty and trustees. With influential introductory letters he went to New York and studied independently. He had as friends Wyant, Inness and other noted painters. Later, the few pictures exhibited at the National Academy of Design were placed "on the line." He also was encouraged by critics and writers of National repute. Returning to the home farm he painted some of his most notable works, and wrote "Studio Field and Gallery," published on its merit by Appletons, New York. William A. wrote him that the reviews by

leading journals were especially fine. This artist, in both theory (or interpretation of nature) and execution insists on originality. Mr. Noble, his early teacher and dear friend, sent him a rarely instructive letter regarding an out-of-door work shown at the museum, and still possessed by its creator. A few expressions are quoted for the benefit of young seekers, many of whom need such protection in the field of the fine arts.

"That is a charming picture—so fresh, so free, from conventionalism so utterly natural. I advised Rollin to go to Paris (where he is sure to become a mannerist, copying the style of others because it is the fashion of those who go there to do so). Now I reverse my opinion. Let him alone with Nature and his own nature, which is so honest and true. He will be better uninfluenced by others (let them be ever so good in their way), for their way is not his way—his being in keeping with his nature and his capacity for seeing nature, and his way of rendering it to be true to his own impressions.

"It was thus I reasoned, believing your way will be better than any which I or any one can point out for you. My opinion is based upon this picture. I have concluded to let you alone."

In showing this to the Art reporter of a great journal Mr. Rollin seemed amused and remarked. "It's a bright day for humanity when one's friend conclude to let him alone!" He has at times specially studied moonlight. One effect, "Land of the Miamis," a sheen on river rapids, is at Hotel Favorite, Piqua, a free loan to the public, framed and mounted at considerable expense by Mr. Stanhope Boal, a champion of this artist, a believer that all the fine arts promote public good and should be free to all. It is generally declared that this painting has given unusual pleasure to thousands. Mr. Rollin—not moved by commercialism—still owns a number of his works, including several of the most important; among them is "Mother's Spinning-wheel," considered a rare example. Once sold at a high price to a Cincinnati family, it was returned with thanks by the last member, an octogenarian. The subject of this account is also author of "Yetta Ségal," a story with philosophic motive. It was notably reviewed. Certain able scholars have publicly indicated that he is doubtless the first to formulate and publish (1898) an exposition of race-fusion, showing the movement to be natural, universal and evolutionary (with exchange of values producing comprehensive organizations) and destined to culminate in the true cosmopolitan. This was looking forward, but even then in most countries were fine examples of the modern composite. The European philosophers of Evolution looked at the past to see what man had been. Several years after the Rollin book a few writers and speakers began to advance ideas of general fusion. Zangwill, Jewish writer, indicated that America especially, is a "melting-pot." About nine years after the Miami date the famous Luther Burbank, in a lecture, introduced his own views—evidently had learned the truth from plant life. Rollin, thinking the former had not seen his

book, sent a copy and a letter. The "wizard" wrote at once about the book, "which I so highly prize. Am glad to know that you see so deeply into nature, and see that the whole universe is of one piece. It takes a poet scientist and a science poet to know this and neither of them separately can fully understand it." He also sent the first copy received from the press of his first book (he had written some magazine articles): "Training of the Human Plant," it was inscribed: "With admiration and respect." A writer of the "Farm and Fireside" staff has said: "Drawn by the love of art, music and literature, many visit the place, and all pilgrims to this Mecca are cordially welcomed. Mr. and Mrs. Rollin possess none of the exclusiveness, which mars the character of many talented persons." One very close to him has the impression that Mr. Rollin, with no descendants and loving his native district, would happily add to the public welfare all that he has. It appears that certain friendly citizens know better than he that, with all held together and protected, to the community the benefit would be invaluable. Questioned as to his belief concerning the future of souls, he felt that aspiration, the longing for something higher and loftier indicates the individual right to interpret the fact of existence. "It was declared long ago," said Mr. Rollin, "that individuality, with all it may embody, is the dearest thing on earth. It is a warrant for the personal right to interpret everything, both subjective and objective intuitions, sacred writings so called, super-normal manifestations, and so on. The late Mrs. Rollin and her dear folks were Unitarian, in the fellowship of the liberal Quaker, Universalist, Spiritualist, and all who believe that punishment here or hereafter which is not remedial is wicked. To teach it engenders insincerity, terrorism and other evils. The progressive way is never hopelessly closed, but is always beautiful, heavenly."

I. B. Deeter. The list of substantial and progressive agriculturists of Miami county includes a number of men who were born in Darke county, and who, coming to Miami county either with their parents or alone, have found here the opportunity of working out their life success in the pursuits of the soil. In this class is I. B. Deeter, a successful farmer of Newton township, who was born on a farm in Adams township, Darke county, November 22, 1862, a son of Abraham R. and Nancy (Bigler) Deeter. Abraham R. Deeter was a farmer all his life, principally in Darke county, where he was twice married. By his first union he had ten children, all of whom are now deceased, and by his union with Nancy Bigler, his second wife, he had eleven children, of whom five still survive: Lee, Rebecca, Lavina, Katherine and I. B. The parents were highly respected people of their community, where they made numerous friends, brought their children up to respect labor, truth and honesty and contributed to the welfare of their community by their support of the institutions of religion, education and good citizenship. I. B. Deeter secured his education in the public schools and remained at home as his father's associate in farming until he reached his majority. About that time he struck out for

himself, in Darke county, where he farmed until 1906, at that time coming to his present property in Newton township. Mr. Deeter has good buildings and modern improvements, and the presence of evidences of prosperity would seem to indicate the owner's possession of good managerial qualities. He maintains a small herd of cattle of a good grade, but for the most part devotes himself to general farming, a department in which he has met with success. Mr. Deeter married Martha, daughter of John Crowel, of Newberry township, and to this union there have been born two children: Fairy, who married LeRoy Smith, of Newton township, and Arthur, who assists his father on the home place. Mr. and Mrs. Deeter belong to the Church of the Brethren. They have four grandchildren, their daughter, Mrs. Smith, having one daughter, Beatrice Irene, and their son, Arthur, who married Erba McDONALD, of Bradford, having had three children: Arthur, Jr., deceased; Emerson Jay and Elma Jean, all residing in Miami county.

George A. Fry. The youth obliged to make his own way in agriculture, without means or influence, should take heart from the experience of George A. Fry, now one of the foremost farmers of Bethel township, who started his independent career with practically no capital and who today is the owner of a splendidly improved property of 392 acres. Mr. Fry is a native of Clermont county, Ohio, born May 15, 1854, a son of Daniel and Sarah (Losey) Fry, farming people, whose other children were: Lucretia, Charles W. and Sedate B. Mr. Fry was reared on the home farm, and with little else than a common school education and unlimited ambition entered upon his independent career. In 1881 he came to Miami county and settled in Bethel township, where his persevering industry and good management have combined to gain him the ownership of the property mentioned, one which in its size and improvements forms one of the finest estates in this part of the county. While being busily engaged in his private affairs, Mr. Fry has found the inclination and opportunity to be of service to his fellow-citizens and for thirty years has been a township trustee, while for thirty-two years he has held membership in the board of agriculture and for fourteen years has been president of that body. During the World war he was a member of a number of committees which had in their charge the collection of funds. Mr. Fry married Anna M., daughter of Joseph and Laura Rudy, of Bethel township, and to this union there have been born three children: Nora May, the wife of Lee R. Wilson, of Washington, D. C.; Harry, who is associated with his father in farming, and Jessie, the wife of Earl Senseman, of Maryland. He and his wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal church and in his political beliefs is a member of the Democratic party.

John Lincoln Honeyman. Horticultural science, than which no broader or more fascinating pursuit is open to the student landsman, has an intelligent and resourceful exponent in John Lincoln Honeyman, whose activities long since have passed the experimental stage and developed into one of the most success-

ful enterprises of the kind in Miami county. He comes by his predilection by inheritance and the name of Honeyman has been identified with this vocation for many years in Monroe township. Mr. Honeyman was born on the property on which he now resides, in 1864, a son of John and Sarah (Syler) Honeyman. His father, an early resident of this locality, and a man esteemed and respected for his many excellencies of mind and heart, bought a farm of 118 acres in Monroe township and many years ago started a grape arbor which is today regarded as one of the finest to be found in the locality. He passed his entire life in agricultural and horticultural operations and made a success of his ventures. Of the ten children in the family, seven are still living. John L. Honeyman acquired a public school education and early became interested in horticultural experiments. In August, 1914, he obtained the home place and thirty-six acres of land, and has carefully tended the arbors in a scientific manner, while his vegetable garden and fruit-bearing trees have also received the best of attention and bear a maximum yield. Mr. Honeyman has made a close and careful study of his chosen vocation and has accomplished results which have gained him a reputation for originality, insight and resource. Few homes in the country have more artistic or tasteful surroundings, as the owner has a keen eye for natural effects and thoroughly understands the scenic value of plants, shrubs, trees and vines. Mr. Honeyman was a substantial contributor to various war measures and has always supported good civic measures. He is unmarried and keeps bachelor hall.

George Cornell Paterson. A gentleman who is held in the highest regard by all the foremost citizens of Troy, Ohio, and very many others, as his acquaintance is wide and extensive, is George C. Paterson. He was born in Austin, Pennsylvania, on May 10, 1891, a son of Andrew C. Paterson. Andrew C. Paterson, who was born in Ingersoll, Ontario, on February 14, 1864, is a prominent attorney-at-law in Detroit, Mich. He married Miss Barbara Munroe, who was born in Ingersoll, Ontario, on September 21, 1864, and they were the parents of two children: George C., who is the subject of this review, and Marjorie, who married H. H. Whittingham, who is assistant factory manager of the Canadian Products Company, at Walkerville, Ontario. George C. Paterson obtained his early education in the public and high school of Detroit, Mich., and later attended the University of Michigan, from which he was graduated with the class of 1914, with the degree of Mechanical Engineer. Immediately after leaving school, Mr. Paterson accepted a position with the Saxon Motor Company with which he remained two years. In 1916 he resigned this position in order to accept the assistant managership of the Troy Body Company, at Troy, Ohio, which position he holds at the present time. Mr. Paterson also holds the office of a director of this company, which office he has held since 1919. In political belief Mr. Paterson is a Republican and though he takes a keen interest in the affairs of the state, he has never sought or held office. Fraternally Mr. Paterson is a

popular and valued member of the Masonic lodge. Religiously Mr. Paterson and his family affiliate with the Presbyterian church. On the seventeenth day of November, 1915, Mr. Paterson was united in marriage with Miss Gretchen Schremser, a daughter of Edward and Mae (Long) Schremser, of Detroit, Mich. To this union there have been born two daughters: Barbara and Virginia.

Arthur C. Pearson. Included among the agriculturists of Spring Creek township who have won success in their chosen vocation is Arthur C. Pearson, the owner of a well cultivated property and a comfortable and attractive home. Mr. Pearson was born in Montgomery county, Ohio, in 1863, a son of Sampson and Hannah (Hoops) Pearson, farming people who passed their active years in Montgomery county, where they were held in high esteem. Their closing years were spent in Darke county, where they died. Mr. Pearson received his education in the public schools of his native county and was reared on the home farm, on which he resided until after entering upon his own career, in 1907, when he came to Miami county and purchased the nucleus for his present farm in Spring Creek township. He has made additions thereto and has added improvements almost yearly, so that his farm comprises one of the model country estates of his locality. He has applied his energies unremittingly to the cultivation and improvement of his land, but has found time to discharge faithfully the duties of citizenship and during the World war contributed a good citizen's share to the movements promulgated for the success of American arms. Mr. Pearson married Miss Martha Arnold, of Darke county, and to this union there have been born nine children: Ethel, the wife of C. G. Mauk; Ruth, the wife, of A. W. Cooper; Virgie, the wife of Carl Cromer; Zella, the wife of Oscar Stein; Catherine; Elma; Walter, who married Margaret Drake, and lives in Miami county; Harold and Ralph, who reside with their parents on the home farm.

F. W. Pearson. The call of the soil is very strong for some men, as is shown in the career of F. W. Pearson, who, after having accumulated a competence and spending several years in retirement, has recently returned to the pursuits of agriculture and is again numbered among the active agriculturists of Monroe township. Mr. Pearson was born on a farm in Concord township, Miami county, in 1866, a son of George and Mary I. (Harbison) Pearson. His father, for many years an agriculturist in Miami county and one of the highly respected citizens of his community, was a soldier of the Union during the Civil war, in which he fought as a member of an Ohio volunteer infantry regiment. F. W. Pearson was educated in the public schools and early adopted farming as his vocation. For many years he tilled the soil with success, but eventually retired from active labor and took up his residence at Troy. After several years of inactivity his energetic nature urged his return to farming and in November, 1919, he secured his present property in Monroe township, which was formerly owned by Silas Pearson. Here he has made numerous improvements of a modern character

and the farm now compares favorably with any of its size in the township. Mr. Pearson has always played a good citizen's role in all movements which have proven themselves worthy, both in the dark days of war and in the piping times of peace. His first marriage was to Miss Elizabeth Steward, by whom he had one son: George E., now an agriculturist of Monroe township, who was particularly active in the sale of war savings stamps during the World war. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Pearson married Miss Ella Gephart, and they reside in a pleasant home on Troy R. F. D. No. 5.

George W. Rudy. Among the native sons of Miami county who are not only maintaining the records of their fathers, but are establishing precedents for their successors, mention is due George W. Rudy, who is carrying on extensive and successful operations on a well-cultivated farm in Bethel township. Mr. Rudy was born on the farm which he now occupies, in 1858, a son of Joseph and Louisa (Young) Rudy. His parents were substantial agriculturists of the honorable, God-fearing class, who rounded out their lives in tilling the soil and who won and held the respect and good will of those among whom they lived. The education of George W. Rudy was obtained in the rural schools and his boyhood and youth were passed on the home farm. When a young man his inclinations led him to enter another line of endeavor at Dayton, but after four years he returned to the home place where he has since devoted his energies to the work of sowing and reaping. His property, under his careful and intelligent management, produces good crops and he is known as a systematic, practical and progressive agriculturist. The quality of his citizenship has never been doubted and during the World war period he was a liberal contributor to the various war movements and activities. Mr. Rudy married Fannie, daughter of John and Eliza (DeLong) Ross, of Miami county, farming people. Charles Ross, a brother of Mrs. Rudy, had one son, Chester, who saw service in the World war. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Rudy, all at home: Pearl, Clyde and Maurice. Maurice Rudy trained at Camp Sherman for service in the United States Army during the World war and went overseas with the Twenty-sixth division as a private. With that division and the Eighty-third, he saw service on five fronts, and took part in the Argonne and St. Mihiel campaigns. During his service he was gassed and seriously incapacitated, but since his return has recovered and is now assisting his father and brother in the cultivation of the home acres.

Oscar W. Pearson, a prosperous, enterprising and prominent farmer, who has pursued his vocation for more than a quarter of a century on his present property in Monroe township, was born in this township, August 22, 1867, a son of Elihu and Eliza Jane (Macy) Pearson. His father, who was a life-long agriculturist of Miami county, was a veteran of the Civil war, having served for one hundred days as a member of an Ohio volunteer infantry regiment, and died in 1901, greatly respected and esteemed. There

were five children in the family. T. Webster, now retired after many years of agricultural pursuits, and living on his home farm in Miami county, Ohio; William H., also a retired farmer, of Arcanum; Alma, deceased; Lydia, the wife of David Ellerman, and Oscar W. Oscar W. Pearson secured his education in the public schools, following which he became his father's assistant on the home place and resided thereon until after the attainment of his majority. He then embarked in farming on his own account, and in 1893 settled on his present property in Monroe township, where he has 110 acres of fertile land, on which he has modern improvements and substantial buildings. He is considered one of the progressive and substantial men of his community, and from 1911 to 1915 served capably as a member of the board of commissioners of Miami county. Mr. Pearson married Elma, daughter of Joseph Pemberton, of West Milton, and to this union there have been born three children: Treva Helen, a graduate of the Ohio State University; Oscar Wallace, Jr., and Wanita, who spent two years at Miami University and is now in her second and final year of a musical course at the University of Chicago. O. Wallace Pearson, Jr., is a graduate of Miami University, and spent a year each in study at Pullman, Wash., and Leland-Stanford University, California. He began his training as an aviator at the University of Illinois and supplemented this by intensive training in Texas, and after receiving his commission as a lieutenant in the United States Aviation Corps became an instructor at West Point, Miss. He went overseas during the World war and was located there from October 1, 1918, to January 21, 1919, but did not get to see actual fighting at the front because of the scarcity of available planes. Since his return he has followed the vocation of commercial aviator. He married Marion Mabrey Simpson, of Mississippi, and they reside at Cincinnati.

Edwin N. Rusk, a leading citizen of Staunton township, now retired after many years passed in agricultural activities, was born on the Pence farm in Spring Creek township, Miami county, in 1859, a son of William F. and Mary (Anderson) Rusk, natives of Warren county, Ohio. The family is well and favorably known in that county, where those of the name have resided for more than one hundred years. The maternal grandmother of Mr. Rusk, Elizabeth Longstreet, who was related to General Longstreet, of Civil war fame, settled at Cincinnati in 1815. The paternal grandfather of Mr. Rusk, of Scotch-Irish parentage, came to the United States in 1780, when a child, and passed the mature years of his life in farming in Warren county. William F. Rusk grew to manhood in Warren county, where he passed some years in farming and was married in 1844, but later moved to Spring Creek township, Miami county, where he rounded out his career. He was one of the prominent and influential men of his community and served for many years as township trustee and county assessor. He and his wife were the parents of nine children: James A., a member of the Seventy-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry during the

Civil war, who was killed at the battle of Nashville, in December, 1864; John N., a member of the One Hundred and Tenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry ("Miami County's Own") during the Civil war, who was killed by a Confederate sharpshooter at Cold Harbor, one of the battles of the Wilderness, in June, 1864; William Franklin, deceased; Lettie, who died as the wife of Albert Kinder; Walter S., a Canadian farmer, who has three children; Edwin N.; Louella; Laura Belle, who died young, and a child who died in infancy. One of the cherished possessions of Edwin N. Rusk is the beautifully carved top of an ammunition box which was used as the headstone for his brother's grave. It was the possession of this that enabled the searchers to find the bodies of the two soldier brothers, whose remains were brought back to Ohio and buried in the graveyard at Raper Chapel, halfway between Piqua and Troy. Edwin N. Rusk was educated in the public schools of Miami county and was engaged in farming a tract of eighty-seven acres, which he owns, until 1915. Since then he has lived in retirement, his land now being farmed by tenants. In addition to establishing a reputation as a capable farmer, Mr. Rusk rendered his fellow-citizens splendid service in several public capacities, being justice of the peace for six years and assessor of Staunton township four years. He was a member of several Liberty loan committees during the war period and of the draft registration board. February 21, 1884, he was united in marriage with Minnie, daughter of John and Susan (Harritt) Hart, farming people of Staunton township, and to this union there were born two daughters: Lettie, who married Frank Weatherhead, a farmer, in 1906, and Velva, who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Weatherhead have three children: Helen, born in 1907, who recently made a trip to Washington, D. C., New York City and Columbus, Ohio, for best sewing, and as one of the best girl canners in Miami county; Lucille, born in 1913, who is attending school in the country, and Robert Rusk, born in 1918. The family attend the Christian church at Troy, Ohio, of which they are members. Politically Mr. Rusk is a Republican and served as a member of the central executive committee.

Charles A. Swartz, who embarked in farming in a modest way after spending many years in one of the trades, and has worked his way to the ownership of 150 acres of good land, is one of the highly regarded agriculturists of Newberry township. Mr. Swartz was born at Covington, Ohio, in 1872, a son of John and Mary (Sedrick) Swartz. His father, who was a man of industry and an honorable citizen of Covington, was a veteran of the Civil war, in which he fought as a soldier of the Union. He and his wife were the parents of three sons: Charles A., John and Will. After acquiring a public school education at Covington, Charles A. Swartz applied himself to the task of learning the stone cutting trade, and after completing his apprenticeship became a journeyman. A skilled workman, he had no difficulty in finding employment, and for a number of years traveled to various parts of the country, working at his trade. Eventually tiring of such a nomadic life,

and desiring a settled home, he decided to take up farming as a vocation and accordingly purchased a small plot of ground near Pleasant Hill. His industry and close application brought him success in this venture, and he was encouraged to broaden the extent of his operations, with the result that he came to his present property in Newberry township. At this time Mr. Swartz is the owner of 150 acres of good land, on which he has modern improvements, including a comfortable home on Covington R. F. D. No. 1. He has always so conducted himself as to win the respect of his fellow-citizens, and his public spirit and loyalty have not been found wanting, as evidenced on a number of occasions, but particularly during the war period when he was a generous contributor to all movements and activities. Mr. Swartz married Elsie B., daughter of Daniel and Rachael Long, farming people of Miami county, who had two sons and one daughter. One of these sons, Joseph Long, had a son, Gaylord, who served in the United States Navy during the World war. Mr. and Mrs. Swartz are the parents of one son, Robert.

A. O. Judson, production manager of the Lorimer Manufacturing Company of Troy, has had a varied and interesting career, which has carried him to widely diverging points and into various lines of endeavor. He was born at Bowling Green, Ohio, October 24, 1876, a son of J. R. and Elizabeth (Mitchell) Judson, and comes of an old and honorable American family of Mayflower origin. His father, who fought as a soldier of the Union during the war between the states, later entered contracting and the oil business, and during his later years was widely and favorably known in the community of Bowling Green and elsewhere. He and his wife were the parents of four children: C. H., a resident of California; W. C., who is engaged in farming in Ohio; A. O., and Flora, now Mrs. William Montwell, of Monroe, Mich. A. O. Judson was graduated from the Bowling Green High School, following which he became an apprentice in the plant of the Toledo Blade Sewing Machine Company, where he specialized in designing. During his employment there, he attended night school, and thus became a proficient mechanic and designer. Later Mr. Judson went to the Cleveland Bicycle Company, where he was advanced to the position of superintendent of the plant, and was there employed when the announcement was made that gold had been discovered in the Klondike. Deciding to try his fortune with the rest of the adventurers who were flocking from all over the world to Alaska, he started upon his journey and joined the gold rush, but when he reached Vancouver, Wash., accepted an attractive offer from the British Columbia Iron Works, as foreman of the machine shop. Next he accepted the post of chief machinist on the S. S. Emperor of Japan, running between this country and Japan, but resigned to offer his services to his country during the Spanish-American war, when he was made chief machinist in the United States Navy and served as such one and one-half years. His next employment was as a draughts-

man with the Westinghouse Company, whence he went to Cripple Creek, Colo. His venture there was short-lived, and he next went to Chicago, where he was employed as a draughtsman by the Holden Punch and Die Company. His next enterprise was an invasion of the oil fields of Ohio and Oklahoma, in oil production and construction of wells, but later he returned to his native state and took employment with the National Cash Register Company, at Dayton, as superintendent of the screw machine department. He was subsequently made foreman of the plant of the Stoddard-Dayton Company, in the machine shops, and later became superintendent of the Warner Gear Company, of Muncie, Ind. From this position he went to the Dayton Screw Company, as manager, but resigned to become factory manager of the Troy Metal Products Company, a Cincinnati concern owned by Troy interests which was engaged in the manufacture of war munitions and devices. After leaving this concern he returned to Troy and associated himself with the Lorimer Manufacturing Company, with which business he has continued to be identified as production manager. Mr. Judson is a member of the Masons and Elks. He married Miss Ethel Stoddard, of Bowling Green, Ohio, and they are consistent members of the Baptist church.

Edgar A. Todd, treasurer of the Atlas Underwear Company of Piqua, is accounted one of the leading and influential business men of the city. He was born at Sidney, Ohio, November 24, 1863, a son of S. N. and Sarah E. (Edgar) Todd. His father, who located at Piqua in 1869, was for some years the owner of a book store, but later became secretary and treasurer of the Dayton Natural Gas Company. He was a man well known and highly esteemed, and his services to the community included several years of capable discharge of the duties of treasurer of Miami county. He and his worthy wife were the parents of three children: Edgar A.; Percy F., an engineer identified with the General Motors Company, and Margaret. Edgar A. Todd attended the public schools of Piqua, after leaving which he purchased his father's book store, which he conducted until 1897, then becoming one of the organizers of the Atlas Underwear Company, which, from small beginnings, has steadily grown to be one of the largest manufacturers of the union type of underwear in the United States. A complete history of this concern will be found in the industrial section of this work. Mr. Todd was prominent in all war activities during the period of the great struggle in Europe, and has always been a public-spirited citizen who has borne his share of the duties of citizenship. He is president of the Community Chautauqua and has devoted much time to advancing its interests, much of the success of the Chautauqua being directly traceable to his constructive and earnest efforts in its behalf, it being worthy of note that before he took the presidency this enterprise had never been a paying venture. He is likewise a member of the Park Board of Piqua. Mr. Todd belongs to the Masons and the Piqua Club and he and his family hold member-

ship in the Presbyterian church of this city. Mr. Todd married Miss Ida M. McCabe, and to this union there have been born two children: Miriam, who resides with her parents, and William Newell, one of the officials of the Richmond, Ind., plant of the Atlas Underwear Company, who married Ruth Rayner, of Piqua, and has one child, William Newell, Jr.

William McNulty, secretary-treasurer of the Cron Manufacturing Company of Piqua, is one of the men prominent in business affairs of the city and likewise well known as a fraternalist. He was born at Pittsburgh, Pa., June 29, 1860, a son of John and Catherine (Dunn) McNulty, his father being well known at Pittsburgh, where he was for many years engaged in the livery business. There were nine children in the family, of whom P. J., now deceased, was a well-known theatrical man, operating the Duquesne, Lyceum and Alvin opera houses at Pittsburgh; Edward T. is superintendent of the Wheeling Steel and Iron Company, and George M. is prominent in the undertaking business at Philadelphia. William McNulty, after graduating from the Central High School, Pittsburgh, became interested in the Moorehead Iron and Steel Mills, and in 1883 entered the furniture business in the manufacture of upholstered furniture and the sale of various well-known lines. While thus engaged he handled the product of the L. C. & W. L. Cron Company in the east, and eventually he and Mr. Jeffery, now president of the Cron Manufacturing Company, with other interests, came to Piqua and bought the Cron plant, which they have since operated on an increasingly large scale. In addition, offices are maintained at Pittsburgh. Mr. McNulty married Miss Sue L. Humphrey, of Pittsburgh, and to this union there have been born three children: Thompson, Elizabeth and Mary, of whom the first two are deceased. During the recent war period, Mr. McNulty was made chairman of the Knights of Columbus drive at Pittsburgh, and, with a quota of \$150,000 to be obtained, raised over \$500,000. He is a prominent and leading member of the Knights of Columbus and past exalted ruler of Washington (Pa.) Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Thomas M. Lanham, superintendent of the Northern Manufacturing Co. at Tippecanoe City, Ohio, was born at Vevay, Ind., in 1870, a son of J. A. and Nancy (Nay) Lanham. During his boyhood and youth Mr. Lanham attended the public schools of his native community, and when he was ready to become self-supporting secured a position in a furniture factory. There he learned the business thoroughly. He was ambitious, industrious and attentive, and as he passed through the various departments as he was promoted to more responsible posts, gathered a great deal of information which has since been of inestimable value to him. In 1910 Mr. Lanham moved to Piqua, where he became identified with the Cron Kilns Company, as assistant superintendent. Later he transferred his services to the Union Furniture Company, of Connersville, Ind., and then returned to Piqua, where he became connected

with the plant owned by L. C. and W. L. Cron, and operated as the L. C. & W. L. Cron Manufacturing Company. He served as superintendent and general manager, and when the new management came in and the Cron Manufacturing Company was established, Mr. Lanham was retained in the capacity of superintendent. On March 1 he retired from above connection and became superintendent of Northern Manufacturing Co. of Tippecanoe City. Mr. Lanham is deservedly recognized as one of the most efficient men to be found in his line of industry, and has played an important part in the building up and development of the various concerns which he has represented. He married Alpha, daughter of Edward Tilley, and they are the parents of one daughter, Mary Jane. Mr. Lanham is a member of the Knights of Pythias, in which he has numerous friends, and as a citizen has been a supporter of all worthy movements, this applying particularly to his contributions to the war activities promulgated in Miami county.

S. N. Touchman. Among the members of the younger business generation at Troy, Ohio, one who is making rapid strides toward prominence and success is S. N. Touchman, proprietor of the Troy Pattern Works. Mr. Touchman was born at Covington Ky., October 27, 1887, a son of Michael and Carrie (Howery) Touchman. He acquired his education at Piqua, to which city his parents had removed when he was a child, and there studied mechanical draughting and engineering and subsequently learned pattern-making at the plant of the Favorite Stove Company. In 1912 he came to Troy, where he engaged in the business of pattern-making in the building now occupied by the C. C. Hobart Company. Outgrowing these quarters, in 1914 he came to his present location, continuing his activities in a building which had been erected for his business. The Troy Pattern Works has developed a splendid business in the making of wood and metal patterns, and its patronage extends to various parts of the country. Its work in designing and executing is recognized as being of a superior degree of workmanship and a competent staff of experts is associated with Mr. Touchman. He is also interested in the Troy Tool and Machine Company, of which he is part owner with B. J. Nelson. Mr. Touchman was a liberal contributor to all war movements and has always done his share in promoting enterprises which have promised to advance the general welfare. He is a member of several social bodies and has numerous friends throughout the city. He married Emma, daughter of William Roeser, and they have two children: William S. and Bettie May.

John R. Simpson, owner of the Ohio Electric Specialty Manufacturing Company, of Troy, and one of the capable and influential business men of that city, was born at Middletown, Ohio, June 22, 1876, a son of Abram and Harriet (Gallaher) Simpson. Abram Simpson was one of the early pork packers of Ohio, and owned a farm property at Middletown, in the public schools of which city John R. Simpson received his education and graduated from high

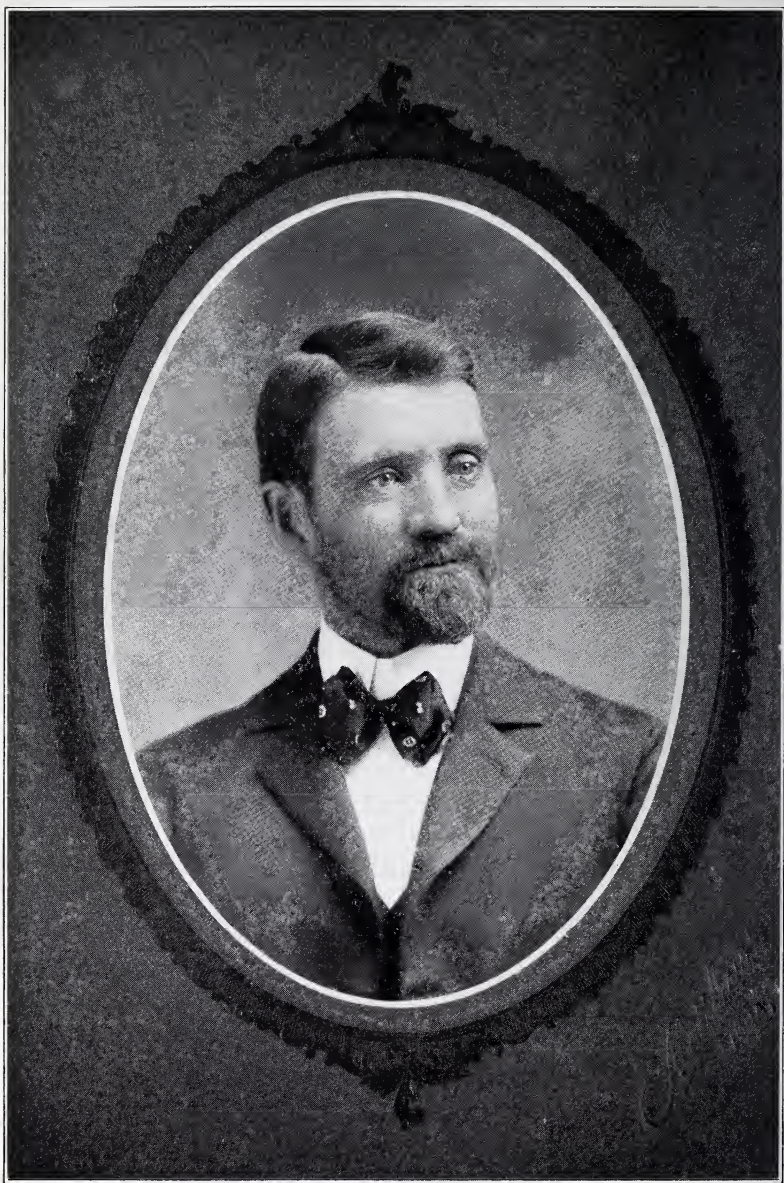
school in 1895. His first connection with the electrical business was as an employe of The Hobart Electric Manufacturing Company, of Troy, with which he continued to be identified until engaging in business on his own account. Mr. Simpson has taken out a number of patents, notably one on a trolley wheel to be used on electric cars. It has been adopted by electric railways throughout the country and is in general use. He likewise holds patents on an improved electric horn. His present business is one of a very substantial nature, and is principally devoted to the manufacture of brushes for the collecting of electrical current off of motors and dynamos. A complete history of the business will be found in the industrial section of this work. Mr. Simpson is prominent in fraternal affairs as a member of the Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen of America and the Masons. With his family he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Simpson married Roxanna, daughter of John and Anne D. Stillwell, of Troy, and to this union there have been born four children: Eusebia, Ernestine, Anna Belle and Nancy. Mr. Simpson has always been a public-spirited citizen, and during the period of the great war was a firm supporter of all movements and activities promoted by the Government.

J. Robert Caywood, M. D. From 1902 to the present time, the health and sanitation of a large part of the city of Piqua has been under the care of Dr. J. Robert Caywood, who has reached an enviable position among the physicians of Miami county. He was born at Somerset, Perry county, Ohio, in 1869, a son of George and Elizabeth (Melick) Caywood. George Caywood came originally from Pennsylvania and became an educator in Perry county, Ohio, from which community he enlisted in a volunteer regiment in the Union army and fought through the period of the Civil war. Three brothers, who had removed to Missouri, enlisted from that state in the army of the North and also took part in that struggle. George and Elizabeth (Melick) Caywood were the parents of seven children: J. Robert; Homer; Thomas, professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Iowa; Charles, superintendent of a branch of the Continental Motor Company of Muskegon, Mich.; Augusta; Dora, the wife of Rev. Charles Rohrer, minister of the Methodist church of Columbus, Ohio, and Ella, the wife of Charles Skinner, of Minneapolis, Minn. After attending the public schools of Perry county, J. Robert Caywood pursued a course at Ohio Wesleyan University, and then graduated from Starling Medical College, following which he did post-graduate work at Chicago and New York. He began the practice of his profession at Lockington, Ohio, but in 1902 came to Piqua, where he has since been located, in the enjoyment of a professional business which in increasing size and importance has reflected his skill and the confidence in which he is held. For the greater part his practice is devoted to surgery, a field in which he has few superiors in Miami county. During the period of the great World war, he was commissioned a lieutenant in the United States Army Medical Corps,

but the signing of the armistice came before he was called into service. He is a valued member of the various organizations of his profession and likewise has numerous social and civic connections. Fraternally, he is a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason. Doctor Caywood married Elizabeth, daughter of M. E. Barber, who died in 1913, leaving one child, Myron, who died when four years of age. The present Mrs. Caywood was formerly Miss Jane Downey, of Piqua.

J. H. Hecker. The contribution of J. H. Hecker to the business development of Covington has taken the form of a first-class automobile garage, while his public-spirited citizenship has been expressed in sterling service in several public offices of importance. Mr. Hecker was born on a farm in Newton township, Miami county, September 6, 1881, a son of Fred and Mary (Shellhaas) Hecker. His father passed his entire life in agricultural pursuits in Miami county, where he was known as a man of honor and integrity, and he and his worthy wife were the parents of four children: J. H.; Lottie, the wife of Herman Wright; Elizabeth, the wife of Harvey Ellerman, and Kate, the wife of Gus Eberenze. J. H. Hecker received his education in school district No. 9, and as a youth learned the trade of carpenter. Like many young men in the country, he was attracted by railroading, and for a time fired an engine, but gave up this work to engage in the plumbing and tinning business at Covington. In 1906, realizing the growing importance of the automobile industry, Mr. Hecker opened the first repair garage at Covington. This he has developed into a large and important business. He employs three skilled mechanics to make repairs, maintains a supply and service station and carries a full line of standard tires and accessories. In connection with his garage he conducts a plumbing and electrical business, and in each of his ventures is winning a pronounced success. Mr. Hecker has been mayor of Covington, having given his thriving little city an excellent administration, and was a member of the city council for eight years. During the war period he acted as field examiner for soldiers' claims, and likewise served on the war chest and war loans committees. Mr. Hecker married Lucy, daughter of Samuel Miller, of Darke county, Ohio.

John B. Benham. The independent career of John B. Benham has been of only comparatively short duration, but during its existence he has demonstrated the possession of abilities that should combine to make him one of the substantial agriculturists of Elizabeth township. Mr. Benham was born in this township, September 5, 1888, a son of Robert and Martha (Bradfute) Benham. His parents were lifelong residents of Miami county, where they followed farming, and where they still reside. They are highly esteemed and respected and have numerous warm friends in the locality in which they have spent so many years. There are four children in the family: Cassa, who after preparing herself for teaching, is following that profession; Carrie, who is now engaged as a nurse in a



ROBERT M. DICKSON



MRS. ROBERT M. DICKSON

hospital at Cincinnati; Walter, who enlisted in the United States army during the World war and saw active service overseas, is now located in Troy, and John B. John B. Benham received his education in the public schools and grew up on the home farm. In 1919 upon his father retiring from the farm he took the management of his father's farm of 100 acres. He is enterprising, ambitious and progressive, and uses modern methods intelligently, with the result that he is securing results in proportion to his labors. Mr. Benham was united in marriage with Fannie, daughter of W. M. Saylor, of Elizabeth township. Their pleasant home is located on Troy R. F. D. No. 2, a community in which they have formed many friendships. He and his wife are members of the Christian church. He is independent in politics.

Robert Morris Dickson, one of the progressive farmers of Spring Creek township, and the owner of eighty acres of land beautifully situated about four and one-half miles east of Piqua, is widely known as a lecturer identified with the work of the Ohio State Grange. Mr. Dickson was born in Spring Creek township, a son of Samuel McKnight and Jane (Patterson) Dickson, and belongs to an old and honored family of Miami county which originated in Pennsylvania. Samuel McKnight Dickson was born at Rossville, Spring Creek township, September 1, 1824, was educated in the public schools and subsequently became an educator, being a man of unusual brilliance of mind. In later years he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, and was also active in civic affairs, serving as township clerk, infirmary director and in other capacities. He was a staunch Republican. His death occurred May 26, 1862. Mr. Dickson married Jane Patterson, who was born in Pennsylvania, August 31, 1832, a daughter of Robert and Mary Patterson, and they became the parents of two sons: John Charles, who died at the age of forty-two years, and Robert Morris. Mrs. Jane Dickson died January 22, 1914. Robert M. Dickson attended the country schools in Spring Creek township, the normal school at Danville, Ind., and the Ohio Northern University at Ada, and then entered upon a career as an educator. For eighteen years he taught in the schools of Miami county, for one year in Iowa and for two years in Kentucky, and then retired from the public educator's calling and turned his attention to agricultural matters. He has a splendidly improved property, and carries on successful activities as a farmer and a raiser of pure-bred Poland China hogs and other good live stock. While Mr. Dickson has been successful as a teacher and farmer, he has perhaps become best known to the people of Ohio as a Grange worker. He is deputy master of the Miami county Grange, a position which he has held for two years. Mr. Dickson is known as a great community worker, and has been a director of the Piqua Chautauqua for years, and for a decade a member of the Miami County Fair Board. He has been for several years chairman of the Committee for Soldiers' Day at the Miami County Fair, his executive ability fitting him thoroughly for the

entertainment of the veterans. Politically he is an active Republican, and has served on numerous occasions as delegate to county, congressional and senatorial conventions. He is secretary of the township organization at this time and is accounted one of the strong and influential men of his party. His fellow citizens have expressed their recognition of his abilities and integrity by electing him to offices of trust, he having served for nine years as a member of the Board of Township Trustees, for six years as pike superintendent, and for a long period as a member of the school board. Mr. Dickson married Harriet, daughter of John H. and Mary Himmelright, who graduated with honors from Piqua High School in 1883, being valedictorian of her class, and then pursued a course at the Ohio Northern College at Ada, Ohio. An intellectual, cultured and refined woman, she has been of great assistance to her husband in his various activities, and was formerly a public school teacher at Piqua, and for twelve years a teacher in the Sunday school. For four years she was a lecturer of the Ohio State Grange, for thirteen years had charge of the juvenile grange, and for four years, from 1913 to 1917, she had charge of the literary work of the grange. As a lecturer on grange subjects she has traveled all over Ohio, and is recognized as one of the State's most capable community welfare workers. She also speaks at farmers' institutes, and at present is one of the directors of the farm bureau of Miami county.

Lieut. Alfred P. Reck. Out of the great World war there have come numerous stories of heroism, of thrilling adventure, miraculous escapes, brutal treatment and great fortitude. In the comparatively brief career of Lieut. Alfred P. Reck as a soldier of the American Expeditionary Forces, all of these are combined into one seemingly interminable, nightmarish experience in which he ran the whole gamut of suffering, danger and abuse, and from which he happily emerged to take up again the duties of peace. Lieutenant Reck was born at Piqua, June 25, 1898, a son of Charles and Nina (Pierce) Reck, his father being a druggist of this city. He comes of good fighting stock as his paternal grandfather, F. W. Reck, was a soldier of the Union during the Civil war and his maternal grandfather, W. F. Pierce, was colonel of the Forty-seventh Regiment, Ohio Volunteer infantry, during that struggle. After his graduation from the Piqua High School, Alfred P. Reck went to Pittsburgh, where he secured a position in the accounting department of the Westinghouse Electric Company. He was so employed at the time of his enlistment in the One Hundred and Ninth Infantry; Twenty-eighth division, a Pennsylvania command, and was sent overseas in April, 1918, in the British steamship "Anchises." After some training in England, his command was sent to France, and while still unseasoned was thrown into the engagement with the French at the second battle of the Marne. On the midnight of July 15, 1918, the Germans attacked on their drive to Paris. Lieutenant Reck, then a sergeant (he later being promoted lieutenant for dis-

tinguished service), had charge of a platoon of fifty men in a force of 250. The attacking Germans numbered thousands and when the French retreated the Americans were left to fight it out. The enemy crossed the Marne by boat-loads and the men under Lieutenant Reck rolled hand grenades down upon them, but they were too greatly outnumbered and the command was almost annihilated. Lieutenant Reck was incapacitated by liquid fire, his neck being burned seriously and his whole body seeming afire, and fell unconscious. At this time the American artillery behind began to shell this sector, but the lieutenant, who had regained consciousness, crawled on his hands and knees away from the shrapnel, and when it rained managed to catch a few drops in his mouth and partly soothe his tortured throat. In vain he tried to attract the allied planes, he being mistaken for a German soldier, and bombs were dropped toward him which he avoided with difficulty. Indeed a splinter from one bomb pinned his coat to the ground. Eventually he made his way to a tree, which he climbed with much difficulty, but in his exhausted state he soon went to sleep and fell ten feet to the ground. For four days, with nothing to eat or drink, without sense of direction, and with the maggots swarming in his sore body, he wandered aimlessly and finally collapsed from sheer exhaustion. He was awakened by a brutal kick on his sore shoulder from the boot of a German soldier and was put on a stretcher and carried to the rear of the German lines. With two other captives he was thrown into an abandoned wine cellar, with the cheerful information that in the morning, as a reprisal, all three were to have their throats cut. Instead they were taken to the prison camp at Fremlin, where Lieutenant Reck witnessed German surgeons driving nails in fractured limbs to hold the limbs together. Later he was transferred to the prison camp at Hirson and then entrained for another camp still farther away from the lines. Here a French soldier bribed one of the German guards for a map, an en route the French poilu, Lieutenant Reck and five others escaped by jumping from the train. With the aid of the map and a compass they pressed on into Belgium, dodging innumerable German patrols and begging food from the Belgian peasants, who ran the risk of death in giving them aid. At Rheinsdale, Belgium, they learned that the frontier at Holland was guarded by a highly-charged system of electric wires and charged pools and decided to try another avenue of escape less dangerous. Catching a freight train, they found it filled with German soldiers, but managed to evade them and at Aix-la-Chappelle started again for the Holland border, steering their course by the North star. They finally came to the electric wires across the Dutch frontier, and for days waited in the underbrush for a good opportunity for escape to present itself. A French aviator eventually succeeded in winning his way through to freedom and Lieutenant Reck made the next attempt. He had nearly gotten through when discovered and captured by German soldiers, who took him to a prison camp at Giessen. In the

refined cruelty which distinguished their treatment of their prisoners, the Germans here informed Lieutenant Reck that Mexico had joined forces with Germany and in the absence of American troops had captured the states of Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. Eventually he was released, following the signing of the Armistice, crossed the Rhine, and rejoined the American forces January 1, 1919. Returning to Piqua he took up newspaper work, and became city editor of the Piqua Call. His next position was on the staff of the Dayton Journal, where he remained until he went to Washington as private secretary to Senator John S. Cable.

J. Nelson Conway, the well-known proprietor of the Conway Laundry of Piqua, and a man of some thirty years' experience in this business, is a native son of Piqua, having been born here on October 10, 1867, the son of John and Jennie (Manson) Conway. John Conway was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, January 1, 1837, where he was for many years identified with the United States postal service as the driver of a mail stage, a business in which his father, James, was also employed for many years in the old Keystone state. Following the trend of emigration westward, John Conway came to Ohio and until the time of his retirement from active life was engaged in the transportation business, first as a boat captain on the Ohio canal and later on the Miami and Erie canals, and after giving up canal boat life, he continued to transport goods with vans and wagons until his advanced age forced him to enter a life of retirement. He died April 17, 1902. His wife, Jennie (Manson) Conway was a native of Shelby county, Ohio, born July 30, 1847, and after her marriage she spent most of her life in Miami county, where she and her husband reared their family of three children and passed their declining years. She died January 19, 1920. To them were born three children: Mattie, the wife of H. M. Alexander, of Miami county, now deceased; J. Nelson, the subject of this biography, and William M., deceased. J. Nelson Conway attended the common schools of Piqua as well as the high school and early in life evinced an interest and aptitude for the laundry business. With the ultimate object in view of becoming the proprietor of such an establishment, he learned every branch and detail of the calling, and then for four years engaged in a partnership with J. W. Morton, of Piqua. At the termination of this period he bought out Mr. Morton and since that time has conducted the business by himself under the name of the Conway Laundry. The demands of the community upon this enterprise necessitate an extensive plant located at 112-114 East Ash street, and in this two-story brick structure only the most modern of methods are employed. Mr. Conway takes a keen interest in all experiments and discoveries made in the business, and is quick to adopt new plans which tend toward the more efficient handling of clothes and the saving of wear. He married, on July 8, 1906, Gertrude Raney, a daughter of Charles and Hettie (Furman) Raney, formerly of Melrose, Paulding county, Ohio, but after the death of Mr. Raney, his widow and family removed to

Piqua. Both Mr. and Mrs. Charles Raney were born in Shelby county, Ohio, where they were married, later moving to Paulding county, Ohio, where he was wholesale meat dealer, and died while so engaged, January 8, 1890. Mrs. Hettie Raney died May 9, 1911. To Mr. and Mrs. Conway one daughter has been born, Martha Rose, who is attending school. Fraternally, he is one of the more prominent members of the local lodges of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Pythias, and both he and his wife are affiliated with the Methodist church.

Miami Specialty Works. Among the comparatively new concerns of Troy, Ohio, one which has shown marked progress and rapid growth is the Miami Specialty Works, a full history of which will be found in the industrial section of this work. The proprietors of this business are young men of energy and progressive spirit, who are rapidly making names for themselves in business circles, Clyde Statler and Louis Schuh. Mr. Statler was born as Oskaloosa, Iowa, in October, 1882, a son of Frank and Ella (Collins) Statler, whose other son, Roy Statler, served as a soldier of the American forces during the recent World war and saw service in France. The early education of Clyde Statler was acquired in the public schools of Oskaloosa, Iowa, and when he came to Troy with his parents, in 1898, he entered the Staunton township school, where his education was completed. Upon leaving school he accepted a position with the Hobart Manufacturing Company and later transferred his services to the Troy Body Company, in the meantime learning the machinist and tool making trades. He arose to the position of foreman of the machine shop of his company, but desired to be independent of others, and with Mr. Schuh founded the Miami Specialty Works, for the manufacture of automobile cabs and bodies. He has since devoted his energies to this business and has been largely instrumental in building it up to its present large proportions. Mr. Statler married Miss Florence Reinheimer, of Troy, and they are the parents of three children: Eugene, Lawrence and Dona. Although his business interests are important, demanding much of his time and attention, Mr. Statler has found the opportunity of contributing to his city's service and at this time is alderman of the fourth ward, his work in the council having been of a constructive and energetic character. He was likewise active in supporting war movements and has always proven himself a public-spirited citizen. As a fraternalist he belongs to the Masons and the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, while his religious connection is with the Baptist church. Louis Schuh was born at Galion, Crawford county, Ohio, November 29, 1883, a son of Philip and Catherine (Beuhler) Schuh, his father being a shoe merchant of that city. Educated in the public schools, Mr. Schuh came to Troy in 1909, and became a tool maker at the plant of the Hobart Manufacturing Company, a concern with which he was identified until he joined Mr. Statler in the founding of the Miami Specialty Works. Like his partner, he is a young man of energy and ability whose labors have contributed greatly to the

success of the enterprise of which he is one of the proprietors. Local war activities received an impetus through his assistance and he has been a worker for good civic causes and welfare movements. He has several fraternal connections and many warm personal friends. Mr. Schuh married Mary, daughter of Samuel Scott.

